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An original dramatic version of
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From Wyndham's Theatre.
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Feb. 3, Grand Theatre, Oldham.

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The King	Count J. de Salis
The Earl of Corwall	M. Wrong
Sir Hugh Lacy	J. H. Turner
Rowland Lacy	G. W. S. Hopkins
Askew	Hon. G. St. V. Harris
Sir Roger Oateley	T. B. O'Connor
Master Hammon	E. G. Sebastian
Master Warner	G. F. Lawrence
Master Scott	H. W. Cook
Simon Eyre	C. K. Allen
Hodge	A. K. Gilmour
Frisk	W. O. P. Rosedale
Ralph	A. G. Garrod
Lovell	T. Longworth
Dodger	P. H. B. Lyon
A Dutch Skipper	F. E. Hill
Servant	W. E. Houstoun-Boswall
A Boy	W. R. F. Wyley
Prentice	N. P. Birley
Rose	Miss J. Austin Taylor
Sybil	Miss Ruth Jefferson
Margery	Mrs. A. Francombe
Jane	Mrs. Ainley Walker

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

For many years past the University amateurs have confined their efforts to performing Shakespeare's or Greek plays. This year an interesting innovation in the Society's rule has been made by the choice of Dekker's "Shoemaker's Holiday," the Vice-Chancellor having so far relaxed the rule laid down by allowing the Society every third year to produce a play that is neither Greek nor by Shakespeare. Dekker's period was from 1570 to 1641, and he published the first play anonymously in the year 1600. His plays have seldom been performed, and many will welcome the opportunity of seeing these old plays acted on the stage. "The Shoemaker's Holiday" is a jolly, rollicking comedy, which gives ample scope for the action of the crowds which are always the strong point of the O.U.D.S.

The action of the play passes in the old romantic world of Lord Mayors, sheriffs, citizens, journeymen, and apprentices, and really affords a good evening's entertainment. The play has been produced this year by Mr. C. K. Allen, but the committee have expressed their thanks to Mr. G. R. Foss, who, though prevented by previous engagements from undertaking the production of the play, has given his invaluable assistance to the amateurs in the later stages of rehearsal. The comedy went quite smoothly for a first night, and throughout the play hearty cheers must have assured the performers that the house was really very pleased with their efforts. The scenery was very simple, and usually only stage curtains were employed, but the dresses, designed and executed by Mr. Tom Haslewood, were correct and effective. There was no music between the acts, but Mr. E. R. Speyer conducted a small orchestra, who (suitably garbed) performed on the stage, and accompanied the morris dances so necessary to the success of an Elizabethan comedy, and rendered on the present occasion with immense verve and striking success by members of the Oxford University English Folk-dance Society.

Simon Eyre's wife, Margery, was acted by Mrs. A. Francombe, a valuable recruit from the City of Oxford Amateur Dramatic Society. Her spirited performance kept the play from dragging, and she undoubtedly scored a complete success. Miss J. Austin Taylor was a fascinating and agreeable Rose, Mrs. Ainley Walker a handsome and effective Jane, and Miss Ruth Jefferson a bright and amusing Sybil. Upon Mr. C. K. Allen's shoulders the brunt of the acting fell, but his Simon Eyre was a genuinely good performance, and the Society have indeed much to thank him for, as he also produced the play. He worked very hard, but the success achieved must have been ample reward. Hodge, Frisk, and Ralph found very capable exponents in Messrs. A. K. Gilmour, W. O. P. Rosedale, and A. G. Garrod; Mr. J. H. Turner did fairly well as Sir Hugh Lacy; Count J. De Salis made a handsome and striking King; Mr. G. W. S. Hopkins was a good Rowland Lacy, the love passages between him and Rose being prettily acted; Mr. T. B. O'Connor worked hard as the Lord Mayor. To the supers unstinted praise can be given; they made the scenes they appeared in very real and interesting, the banquetting scene at the end of Act IV. being particularly good, and the arrangement of the crowd excellent. The prologue was well spoken by Mr. A. K. Gilmour.

Dekker has been called the Dickens of the Elizabethan period, and he certainly has a rare delicacy of touch, a keen wit, and a good eye for character. The comedy dragged a little on the first night, but when the performers have settled down to their parts, we think that their numerous patrons will have cause to thank the Oxford amateurs for giving them the opportunity of witnessing "The Shoemaker's Holiday."

The Finchley Amateur Dramatic Society, under the direction of Mr. Harold Sutton, presented, on Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday last, Robert Marshall's comedy, "His Excellency the Governor," at Woodside Hall, North Finchley.

The Dudley Amateur Operatic Society are to be highly complimented on their performance of "A Country Girl," which was enthusiastically received by a crowded house at the Dudley Opera House on Monday. The singing and dancing of the ladies was admirable. Mr. Joseph Lewis as Geoffrey Challoner was excellent in voice and acting. The veteran of the cast, Mr. Harry Preedy, was well fitted as the Rajah of Bhong. Mr. Tom Hanson fairly revelled in the part of Barry, causing endless laughter. Mr. Rupert Lett as Douglas Verity and Mr. James Cartwright as Sir Joseph Verity were highly successful. A very good character part was that of Granfer Mummery by Mr. Charles English. Among the ladies Miss Doris Williams must take first honours as Marjorie; a more charming and graceful rendering could not be desired, her singing and acting being deservedly encored. Miss Laura Yeomans put plenty of spirit into the part of Nan, and sang with her usual skill. Mme. Walter Rolinson made a majestic Princess of Bhong, and Miss Nellie Porter as Mme. Sophie was highly appreciated. The chorus was an exceptionally good one, and their work was a feature of the performance. The society have for years given their services on the side of charity, and their efforts deserve unlimited encouragement. They hold the boards for a week.

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Illustrated by Photographs and Autographs.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS).

ABBREVIATIONS: In order to effect a saving in space the following abbreviations are used in these columns: P. (Proprietor); P. & M. (Proprietor and Manager); M. D. (Managing Director); L. & M. (Lessee and Manager); M. (Manager); G. M. (General Manager); A. M. (Acting Manager); Asst. M. (Assistant Manager); R. M. (Resident Manager); B. M. (Business Manager); T. M. (Touring Manager); Mus. D. (Musical Director); Mus. C. (Musical Conductor); S. (Secretary); S. & T. (Secretary and Treasurer).

ABERAVON—PORT TALBOT.

GRAND THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. D. Jones.—First three nights: Zelda, instrumentalist; Wal Owen, silent comedian; Harry Armstrong, vocalist; and pictures. Last three nights: Mr. Geo. Edwardes' company in "The Count of Luxembourg." The company includes: Mr. Field Fisher, Mr. Mansell Stringer, Mr. Bernard Moore, Mr. Dutton Nicholls, Mr. Franklin Davies, Mr. J. Western, Mr. Allen Forde, Mr. Bevan Browne, Mr. J. Sharland, Mr. Howard V. Cropton, Miss Clarice Lockstone, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Madge Broadwood, Miss Dora Keys, Miss Peggy Gray, Miss Ruby Tattersall, Miss Sadrene Storri, and Miss Mary Hesseltine. T. M., Mr. George Gray.

VINT'S PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. Wm. Mitchell.—This week: Brothers Miller, gymnastic comedians; Vagabond West, vocalist; Leo Tell, vocal phenomenon; and pictures.

TAIBACH PICTURE PALACE.—P., W. Davies and Co.; M., Mr. W. Davies.—Twm Jones, Welsh comedian; and pictures.

ABERDEEN.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., the Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson; Mus. D., Mr. A. W. Loseby.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Martin Harvey presents: Monday and Tuesday, "The World and his Wife," preceded by "The Conspiracy"; Wednesday and Thursday and Wednesday matinée, "Œdipus Rex"; Friday evening, "The Breed of the Treshams"; Saturday evening, "Hamlet." The company includes: Mr. Martin Harvey, Miss Mary Rorke, Mr. Franklin Dyall, Mr. Albert E. Raynor, Mr. Percy Walsh, Mr. George Cooke, Mr. Eugene Wellesley, Mr. Ernest Stidwell, Mr. Charles J. Cameron, Miss Brenda Gibson, Miss Florence Hunt. T. M., Mr. Frank B. O'Neill. Next week: "The Dancing Mistress."

PALACE THEATRE.—This week (twice nightly): The Cleveland Troupe, in musical act; Rey and Rey, comedians; James Davis, burlesque comedian; and pictures.

TIVOLI.—P., The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; M. D. and Licensee, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Alice Raymond presents "A Night in Egypt"; Mr. Arthur Sutcliffe, comedian; Mr. P. Sturrock Campbell presents his Four Cronies in "Prosie Nansie"; Mr. Gilbert Girard; Mr. Harry Friskey; Miss Elsie Meynard; Mr. P. J. Gillen's Co., in "Rogers"; and pictures.

ABERTILLERY.

NEW METROPOLE.—P., Messrs. C. J. Seaborn and Bob Evans; Mus. D., Mr. F. Drake.—This week (for six nights and matinée): Mr. Henry L. Osmond's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," under the direction of Mr. Bert Goldin. The company includes: Mr. Alan Hanbury, Mr. Bert Goldin, Mr. Tom Lloyd, Mr. Fred Harris, Mr. George Barrett, the Danbys, Wee Winnie and Little Alice, Miss Amy Allnutt, Miss Ethel Glyde, Miss Dorothy Barron, Miss Grace Suart, Miss Violet English, and Miss Lily English. Next week: "A Trip to Chinatown."

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. A. Tilney and Sons; M., Mr. E. Pryce.—This week (twice nightly): Zena Clare, Bros. Idento, Maver and Barton, Cora Corina, Burgos and Clara, and pictures.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. William Wilson; R. M., Mr. Fred W. Green.—This week: Mr. Alban B. Limpus's company is the attraction here in "Bella Donna." The outstanding feature in the performance is the artistic portrayal of Mrs. Chepstow by Miss Georgina Wynter; her representation of this character is most praiseworthy. Mr. E. W. Thomas as Dr. Isaacson is very convincing, and Mr. Dudley Stuart makes a capital effort as the much-wronged husband. The cast also includes: Mr. W. J. Butler, Mr. J. Heribert Willis, Mr. H. Gumpert, Mr. Ernest Watte-Tyre, Mr Douglas Lewis, Mr. Alfred McMahon, Mr. Horace Broad, Mr. Frank Kidger, Miss Agnes Knights, and Miss Flora Haydon. Matinée on Wednesday at 2.30.

NEW HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmott; R. M., Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson.—This week: Mr. Fred Karno's company is here in "Wakes Week" and "Perkins, M.P.," the chief merry-maker being Mr. Tom Nelson. Bert Rae, dancer; Baker and Gee, in a pot-pourri act; Kittie Vay, coon singer and dancer; Frank Maura, foot equilibrist and Trancka wonder; Sher-Fenga, in a novel speciality; and pictures are also on the programme.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. William Wilson; Manager, Mr. Harold Wilson.—This week: Mr. George Thornton's orchestra; selections on the gramophone; and pictures.

QUEEN'S HALL.—A. M., Mr. Havelock-Bowker.—This week: Amy Terry, comedienne; and pictures.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Clarence Sounes; G. M., Mr. Jack Gladwin; A. M., Mr. W. H. Willats.—Wentworth Croke's "Cinderella" is being presented here this week. The company includes: The Misses Lily Arthur, Clara Moore, Edna Deno, Beatrice Howard, Amy Wright, and Fanny Bass; Messrs. George Rance, Bert Morley, the Bros. Obo, and Tom E. Sloan. Next week: "The Easiest Way."

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

CASTLE PICTURE PALACE. — P., Mr. J. T. Castle; G. M., Mr. John Henry Downs; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Palmer.—This week (twice nightly): The Brothers Morris' pantomime, "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Lilian Kendall, Miss Dora Dassell, Sam Sheverosky, Sid Sheverosky, Miss Jeanie Hunter, Miss Minnie Cardiff, Jack Cardiff, Miss Dorothy Denmark, Fred Storback, Frank Patterson, Mr. Geo. Ford, Dolly Hastwart, Miss Daisy Geldard; Miss Molly Hill, Miss Kitty Maughan, Miss May Summers, Miss Jenny Cross, Miss Alice Graham. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

ARBROATH.

MELVIN'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr Arthur Dean.—This week: Beau Brummels in vocal and dancing act; Rosie Dawn, comedienne and dancer; Horace Ford, coon vocalist and dancer; and pictures.

OLYMPIA.—M., Mr. Graham Brown.—This week: Frank Le Dent, comedy juggler; Jack Fraser, comedian; the Four Blairs, the dancing marvels; and pictures.

ASHINGTON.

MINERS' THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Thompson and Metcalfe; R. M., Mr. Harry Clegg. — This week (twice nightly): Franco Piper, Gus Fowler, and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.

PAVILION.—P., Hirst Pavilion Co.; R. M., Mr. Frank Percival.—This week (twice nightly): The Five Reignors; the Bohemians; Ena Baxter; the Rowntrees; Le Blond; the Sisters Ol Dare; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. and M., Mr. Chas. Revill; A. M., Mr. Charles Revill, jun.; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Halton.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Percy Hutchison presents "Brewster's Millions." The company includes: Mr. Percy Hutchison, Mr. Gerald Fitzgerald, Mr. Ernest Deans, Mr. T. Gordon-Blyth, Mr. Henry Hampson, Mr. Herbert Marshall, Mr. V. S. Haye, Mr. Chas. Bedells, Mr. Henry Byatt, Mr. Walter Plinge, Mr. F. G. Thurstans, Mr. A. Paynter, Mr. F. Hunter, Mr. W. Hughes, Messrs. Yates and Green, Mr. F. Gordon, Messrs. Forbes and Brown, Miss Lilias Earle, Miss Claire Milvain, Miss Gwenda Villiers, Miss Muriel Nevison, Miss Betty Linley, Miss Elsie Stranack. T. M., Mr. Charles Grove. Next week: "The Merry Widow" and "The Dollar Princess."

PAVILION THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs William Henry Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Arthur Downes; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Coleman.—This week: Lind and Lind, "The Private and the Maid," a military absurdity; the Raymonds (Mara and Nell), harmonising vocalists; and pictures. Twice nightly, and matinées, Monday, Tuesday and Saturday. Prize competitions for amateur performers, Friday, second house, 9.

ATTERCLIFFE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Wilfrid Bryan.—This week (twice nightly): The Rennies, in acrobatic act; Shaw and Dover, duettists and rag-time dancers; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—L., Mr. Matt Raymond; R. M., Mr. Edward King.—This week: The Leslie Redfern Trio, in comedy sketch; the Bros. Carlisle, dancers; Mr. George Barton; Miss Minnie Paget, the concertina queen; the Scarlet Band; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

BACUP.

COURT THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. John Walters.—This week: The Australian Larrikins in their bush vocal comedy, and pictures.

PUBLIC HALL.—L., Messrs. Glenville and Osmond; M., Mr. J. Clay.—This week: The Rocheforts, vocalists and dancers, and pictures.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Barnsley Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Edwin T. Heys presents "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Mr. Edward Benson, Miss Nellie Stott, Miss Altona Stafford, Mr. Edward Cooper, Miss Marie Grace, Mr. F. Gerard Clifton, Mr. Harry Denvil, Miss Dorothy Day, and Miss Frances Kendall. Next week: "'Midst Pleasures and Palaces."

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., The Barnsley Empire Palace Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Will Smithson; A. M., Mr. T. Carrick.—Mr. F. Carpenter's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," is here this week. The company includes: Miss Ethel Campbell, Miss Dorothy Millar Naughton and Gold, and Mr. Geo. Grogie. Speciality dances are given by the Six Clifton Belles.

BARNSTAPLE.

PICTUREDROME.—P., The Bridge Trustees; L., Messrs. W. J. Cooke and Harry Tresise.—This week: Tom Gordon and the Four Klipper Kids, in song and dance; the Two Warrens, Continental contortionists; and pictures.

ALBERT HALL.—P., The Barnstaple Town Council; M., Mr. O. J. Nicklin.—The Watkin Mills Touring Concert Party appeared here for one night. The party includes: Miss Eunets Truscott (soprano), Miss Joan Ashley (contralto), Mr. Charles Saunders (tenor), Mr. Watkin Mills (bass), Miss Dorothea Walwyn (violinist), and Mr. Percival Garrett (pianist).

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY.—L. & M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; R. M., Mr. George Stone.—The F. R. Benson Shakespearean Co. present on Monday, "If I Were King"; on Tuesday, "Macbeth"; Wednesday, "The Taming of the Shrew"; Thursday, "If I Were King"; Friday, "The Merry Wives of Windsor"; Saturday, "Hamlet." The company includes: Mr. Henry Herbert, Miss Gladys Vanderzee, Charles Warburton, John Cairns, Duncan Yarrow, Andrew Leigh, Basil Osborne, Horace Braham, E. Pardoe Woodman, Basil Rathbone, Edmund Sulley, S. B. Bickmore, Frank Freeman, F. Woodcock Denham, Lilian Laurence, Brunhild Muller, Evelyn Vanderzee, Muriel Dawn, Peggy Talbot Daniel, Madge K. Yardley, B. M., Mr. Frank S. Justins, G. M., Mr. W. H. Savery. Matinée of "The Merchant of Venice" on Saturday, at 2.30.

TIVOLI.—L. & M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Emilius Hill; Mus. D., Mr. T. H. Hulley.—This week (twice nightly): The Six Donovans, in musical act; Ruthie Vollmer, comedienne and dancer; Bruno Pitrot, gymnast, assisted by Mlle. Louise; Lewis's Living Dolls; the Four Newburys, shoe dancers; James Snaith, eccentric comedian; Helen Martin, vocalist; Jessie Danvers and company present "The Key."

BARRY DOCK.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. H. Samson.—This week: Smit and Smit, comedy gymnasts; W. P. Wently, the white Highlander; the Mozarts, unique musical act; and pictures.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Tours, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Arthur Carlton; M., Mr. T. E. Maddox.—This week: Mr. Arthur Carlton's company in "Cinderella," the company including Messrs. Whitney and Joyner, T. Harker, Bert Castle, Syd Benson, Misses Edith Courtney, Phyllis Wilson, Marie Royce, Gladys Fisher, Ada Frank, and M. Beaumont.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Egbert Lewis; A. M., Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Mr. Richard Flanagan's production of "The Winter's Tale" is being performed for the first time in the Western Counties here this week. Mr. Norman Partriege sustains Leontes in a convincing manner, and is well supported by a conscientious body of artistes. The general staging is elaborate. Mr. Yorke Sheffield conducts the orchestra. Next week, "The Whip."

PALACE THEATRE.—M., Mr. Leslie Fairfax.—The headline here this week (twice nightly) is The Quaints, under the direction of R. B. Salisbury, a combination of pierrots who are both clever and entertaining. At the bottom of the bill are the Four Panlastors in "The Live Waiters," and the remainder of the programme is contributed by Will E. Wallie, the magic muddler; the Vigoranto Trio, acrobats, gymnasts and teeth performers; Maggie Carr and her banjo; the Forders, in "Mary May and a Marionette"; Brez, the tramp violinist; and pictures.

BATLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Chas. Draycott; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Heggie.—This week: Mr. Sinclair Neill and Company, including Miss Alice Miller, in "Long Live the King"; Edward Harold, the singing Life Guardsman; Fields and Lewis, the hump shifters; "The Bank Thief"; Little Leona, the juvenile star; Carlton and Hill, comedy acrobats and boxers; and Baron Nickolay and Son, Russian dwarfs.

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden; A. M., Mr. James M. McCann.—Last week of Mr. Fred W. Warden's pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk." On Wednesday Miss Violet Lloyd (principal boy) took a well-deserved benefit, when extra attractions were provided, including various artistes from the Royal Hippodrome and Belfast Empire, by kind permission of Mr. Henry T. Downs and directors of Empire, Ltd. The old-fashioned harlequinade was revived for the occasion and proved to be a great feature, being rapturously received by both young and old. Last night (Friday) Mr. Phil Smith (Dame Trot) appealed to his many Belfast friends and the success of his benefit was quite assured. Next week: F. R. Benson's Repertoire Company.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Wardens, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden.—The attraction here is "A Child of the Streets," presented by Miss Dot Stephens and company. Miss Dot Stephens appears as Doris Graham and wins the audience with her delightful impersonation, her rendering of several songs gaining her a great reception. Mr. George Handel admirably fills the rôle of Sir John Graham, and Miss Pollie Denville vivaciously sustains the rôle of Selina Haddock. Mr. George H. Hazlehurst realistically portrays the iniquities of Ezra Scroggie, and the rôle of Lawrence Craigie was capably interpreted by Mr. Arthur Curzon. Mr. Norman H. Tracy deserves special praise for his treatment of the rôle of Lieutenant Jack Ainsley, and Miss Olga H. Hazlehurst appeared to advantage as Gertrude Graham. In the detestable rôle of Lorna Carstairs Miss Lily Annesley scores immeasurably; and other parts were efficiently sustained by Little Eva Handel and Messrs. Valmour Shaw, John Errol, H. Brady, and Lewis Rae. Next week: "The Man Tempted Me."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—P., Alexandra Theatre Co., Ltd.; R. M. D., Mr. J. Leicester Jackson.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey and company are fulfilling the second week of their successful engagement here. On Monday the Irish play, "Eileen Oge," was presented, when a great success was achieved by Mr. Chalmers Mackey in the rôle of Brien O'Farrell, his songs being loudly cheered. In the title-rôle Mrs. Chalmers Mackey exhibited no little charm and deservedly shared the honours of the piece with her talented husband. Mr. T. R. Nugent impersonated the parish priest, Esther Mahoney, excellently, and Miss Amy Manfree was a vivacious Bridget Maguire, her rendering of "Going to Kildare" being rapturously received. Mr. Charles M. Julian furnished a clever impersonation of Mr. McLean, and Miss Maud Lillian appeared as Norah O'Donnell. Miss M. Russell was good as Mrs. O'Donnell, and Mr. Dennis Mackey was all that could possibly be desired as Harry Loftus. Other rôles were interpreted by Miss Jeannette Lyons and Messrs. J. P. McBride, Frank Dalton, J. Neville, J. Power, &c. During the week "The Colleen Bawn" was also performed, and last night (Friday), on the occasion of a complimentary benefit to Mr. Chalmers Mackey, "Arrah-na-Pogue" was staged. Next week: Mr. E. Clarkson's pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading feature here is supplied by the Two Hollanders, who appear with pronounced success in a Dutch entertainment, "From Peasant to Artiste." The Great Roland, a wonderful illusionist, appears in his Moorish scena, which is quite a feature of the bill; and the Oakes Duo appear in "Woman's Rights," which is very funny. Miss Florence Esdaile's fine voice has been heard with pleasure in several songs, and Mr. Jack Truman is a tenor vocalist of exceeding merit. Also on the programme are Miss Lily Cole in her burlesque pictures of popular songs; Bart and Bart, the baggage wreckers; the Royal Merry Four, comedy quartette; Helena Millais and company, in American cowboy drama, "Silver Creek"; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. A. C. Laidler.—Mr. Walter Bird's company tops the bill, and present their comedy sketch, "Her Husband," which has created the utmost merriment. Charles A. Lewis, the novelty ventriloquist, knows how to please an audience; and Miss Emily Millard's chorus songs are vigorously encored. Also billed are Little Ella, dainty comedienne; J. J. Mannox, the coffee-coloured coon; Miss Ida Ernest, Quaker maid comedienne; Mr. Harry Curtis, baritone; and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Will White.—The vaudeville element is sustained here by Toft and Tate, in comedy act; and Fox and Melville, in illustrated songs. Pictures complete.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—G. M., Mr. Herbert Rogers.—This week: Miss Hetty Halpin, comedienne and pedestal dancer; Mr. Bob Robinson, Scotch comedian; and pictures.

NEW PRINCESS THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Terris Pounds.—This week: Miss Evelyn Bergin, patter comedienne, and pictures.

BILSTON.

HIPPODROME AND PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Mr. E. C. Jazon; R. M., Mr. E. Du Rocher.—"Facing the World Alone" is here this week, played by Ethel Van Praagh and J. Edward Whitty's company, including Miss Dorothy Dewhurst. Miss May Neilson, Miss Flora Hastings, Mr. J. Edward Whitty, Mr. A. Austin Leigh, Mr. Guy P. Ellis, and Mr. John Corless.

WOOD'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Thomas R. Wood.—This week: Frank Sley presents his top-boot speciality and novel dancing act, and a vocal and musical act is given by the Proffitt Family.

BIRKENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Herbert M. King; Mus. D., Mr. B. Srawley.—This week (once nightly): Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy present "The House that Jack Built." The company includes: Miss Evelyn Major, Mr. J. Harrison, Mr. Will Judge, Little Cluley, Darby and McLester, Mr. H. Glynne Charteris, Miss Peggy McDonnell, Miss Gertie Innes, Miss Gwennie Vaughan, Monte Cristo, Mr. Johns, and Miss Gertrude Orchard. Matinées, Thursday and Saturday at 2.30. Next week: "The Chocolate Soldier."

HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. E. Dottridge; R. M., Mr. Frank Weston; Mus. D., Mr. R. Tomlinson.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Fred W. Carpenter's company present "Jack and the Beanstalk." The company includes: Miss Daisy Verne, Miss Gracie Matheson, Sisters Hula, Miss Dorothy Foster, Pannett and Wedon, Mr. Jack Haddon, Mr. Syd Crossley, Mr. Montague Biggs, Mr. Ferd Eugene, Miss Emily Truman, Miss Audrey Alison, Miss Marie Raynor, and the Four Clifton Belles. T. M., Mr. Herbert Abrahams. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole P. and M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. John Keating; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest Denney.—This week: An excellent combination comprises Miss Charlotte Parry, American protean actress, in sketch, "Into the Light"; Arthur Lennard, actor-vocalist; Mr. Johnson Clarke, expert ventriloquist; Francini, Ollams and Page, in clever acrobatic and juggling act; Sanford and Lyons, comedians and dancers; Speedwell, the wizard painter; Charles Merry, comedian; Miss Kitty Stewart, at the piano; Honor Oak, comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Theatre Royal (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Tom B. Davis; G. M., Mr. Philip Rodway; A. M., Mr. F. W. Smith.—Every success continues to attend "Goody Two Shoes." George Robey is ever to the front when there is laughter to be raised, and he receives worthy support from the Brothers McNaughton, Fred Conquest (who gives a perfect impersonation of the dog), Kisbey, the call boy, and a host of others. Miss Nellie Wigley continues to delight everybody with her handsome appearance as the "boy," and her musical numbers are a perfect treat, whilst Miss Maie Ash has a daintiness and charm that never fails to please.

PRINCE OF WALES.—P., the Prince of Wales Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart; A. M., Mr. Henry Johnston.—After a successful run "Twinkle, Little Star," will come to an end on Feb. 15, to be followed by "The Sunshine Girl." Miss Irene Dillon is pleasing everybody with her songs, and Miss Lulu Valli has many admirers as the "boy." The comedy merchants are in excellent tune, and large houses are nightly enjoying the merry-making of Bert Gilbert, Foreman and Fannan, and Marriott Edgar.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—P., Mr. Leon Salberg; A. M., Mr. W. T. Guest.—"Robinson Crusoe" is carrying all before it, and crowded houses are the rule. In fact the success is so great that the Monday matinée is being continued until further notice, nine performances being given each week. Miss Myra Hammond is a handsome dashing Crusoe, and Miss Ray Ford a dainty Polly Perkins, and Misses Monica Ellestree and Mona Magnet are scoring successes as second "boy" and girl respectively. Mr. Bert Harrow is all that could be desired as the bold bad pirate, and he is worthily supported by J. R. Tyrell and the Bros. Norman. Little Joyce Barbour dances daintily.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L., Mr. T. Morton Powell; A. M., Mr. H. E. Cox.—"Cinderella" has followed "Cinderella" at this popular house, the production this week being that of Mr. John Tiller. It is admirably staged and there are plenty of catchy songs and good fun provided. Miss Ethel Negretti is a popular "principal boy," Miss Nellie Grimshaw is a dainty Cinderella, and these two young ladies give some pleasing songs and duets. An excellent Dandini is seen in Miss Alice Maud. On the comedy side are Mr. Fred Walmsley, Mr. Leslie Ross, Mr. Sam Kelly, and Misses Beatrice Grosvenor and Fanny Wallace as the Ugly Sisters.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. Charles Barnard; M., Mr. Lewis Chapman.— Twice nightly: The story of "The Mormon and His Wives" is unfolded in dramatic fashion, and the adventures of the innocent maiden lured away from home are depicted in a very realistic manner. Mr. Oswald Cray makes a capital hero, and a sympathetic rendering of the part of the heroine is furnished by Miss Sybil Hare. In the heavy parts are Mr. Clifton Earle and Mr. Leslie Howard, whose acting is very intense, and further realism is added by the introduction of a band of Indians.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. W. H. Bebby; Asst. M., Mr. A. Williams.—Twice nightly: Gertie Gitana is at her best, and is nightly charming crowded houses with her dainty singing. An amusing Scottish character comedy, "The Lodger," is presented by MacDonald and Young's company; an amusing item is furnished by Solo, who represents the troubles of a person "too full for words"; John and Mae Burke give an interesting mixture of music, song, and patter; the parodies of Dusty Rhodes are highly appreciated; O'Brien Bros. are experts on the horizontal bar; Amos Howard is a clever dancer; and J. H. Scotland an excellent vocalist.

GRAND.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Gordon E. Craig; Asst. M., Mr. H. F. Coward.—Twice nightly: Wilkie Bard is profitably expressing his satire for rag-time, and also delighting everybody with his study of "The Night Watchman." A capital exhibition of strength is given by the Bellclair Bros.; Alf Tack is a wonderful head and hand balancer; W. T. Ellwanger and company appear in an amusing sketch, "Who Did It?"; Archie Naish is an original entertainer at the piano; Brothers Curran are laughable when they box; Bromley and Fontein are a smart comedy duo; and Little Lily Shaw a clever child comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—P., the New Hippodrome (Birmingham), Ltd.; M., Mr. Ben de Freece; R. M., Mr. H. Hamilton.—Twice nightly: Max Erard's company of Vaudevillians appear in a series of song scenas which are beautifully staged and dressed. The company are excellent vocalists and instrumentalists. Messrs. G. Sheldon and F. Buckley's company appear in an exciting sketch, "Before the Dawn"; eccentric dancing of the very latest type is furnished by Max Rivers and Mayme Sullivan; Miss Elida Morris sings rag-time in approved style; an interesting exhibition of animal intelligence is furnished by Mascot, a beautiful white horse; Miss Elizabeth Clare gives a capital musical turn; Martin Kamp is a humorist with some clever impressions; and Jimmy Walsh is a good comedian.

GAIETY.—L. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Walter Bellian.—Lew Lake and his company furnish two capital items in an interesting programme, "The Bloomsbury Burglars" and "My Pal Jerry." Plenty of fun is provided, and the sketches are very much enjoyed. The Minerva Troupe of Cyclists are very entertaining; amusing items are furnished by Raffin's Trapeze and Comedy Monkeys; Sable Three and Searle are smart dancers; Lawson and O'Dell, comedy eccentrics; the Reays, clever gymnasts; Edie Veno, a dainty comedienne; and Fred Wright, an amusing comic.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—P., Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; D. of Entertainments, Mr. S. T. Newsome; A. M., Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Twice nightly: Messrs. Nightingale and Bishop's pantomime, "Aladdin," has been retained for another week, and is being heartily appreciated by large audiences. Miss Edna Latonne is warmly admired in the title-rôle, and excellent work is done by the rest of the company. A clever performance is given by the Excelsior Troupe of Acrobatic Cyclists; Burr and Rutter are two very eccentric comedians; Morris and West sing and dance cleverly; Henderson White has a good tenor voice; and Bert Rayburn is a quaint comedian.

NEW PALACE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. George Anthony.—Twice nightly: J. W. Hunter and company, Heeley and Crawford, Olive Melba, and pictures.

BATLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Charles Draycott; Mus. D., Mr. James Higgie.—This week: Sinclair Neil and Alice Miller in "Long Live the King" and "The Bank Thief"; Edward Harold, singing lifeguardsman; Fields and Lewis, the hum shifters; Little Leona, the juvenile star; Carlton and Hill, comedy boxers; Baron Nickolay and Son, Russian dwarfs.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.

EDEN THEATRE.—L. & G. M., Mr. Chas. Elderton; R. M., Mr. F. Steels.—This week: Mr. Cyril Maude's company in "Bunty Pulls the Strings," preceded by "The Price of Coal." The company includes: Mr. Drysdale, Mr. D. Urquhart, Mr. Barker, the Misses Jean Clyde, Josephine Woodward, Mary Campbell, Eva Young, and Miss Young.

HIPPODROME. — L., Standard Electric Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. H. Warren.—This week: Gill and Hall, duettists; Christo, in mirth, mystery and magic; Ormsides, harmonising vocalists; the Armins, in dancing, singing and instrumental scena; and pictures. Next week: "The Turner's Opera Co.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Harry Lyons.—This week (once nightly): Pictures.

PALACE.—P. M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Arthur Burton.—This week: C. W. and J. R. Poole's panoramic production, "The Loss of the Titanic"; Nelson Trio, in "Uncle's First Visit to the Rink"; Jack Stocks, the man of mirth; La Freya, in artistic visions; Bowden and Stoll, original comedians; Elsie Ellis, comedienne; Anna Dorothy, crazy comedienne; and pictures.

PRINCE'S.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Page; A. M., Mr. John Erser; Asst. M., Mr. Albert Hargreaves; Mus. D., Mr. W. Haydock.—This week: Mr. H. O. Wills' pantomime, "The Forty Thieves." The company includes: Mr. H. O. Wills, Mr. L. Taylor, Mr. Matt Morley, Miss R. Alderman, Miss Nellie Townsend, Miss Ralda Hall, Mr. Ben Ford, Mr. H. Esdale, Mr. R. Esdale, Mr. Sid Raymond, Miss F. Holmshaw, Miss Bertha Hall, Miss May Edney, Miss Ada Fawn.

STAR.—Messrs. Strong and Taylor. — This week: Pictures, and Wall Walmsley, comedian.

ALEXANDRA HALL. — The Dowry Picture Co.; This week: Pictures, and Lane and Volroy, comedians.

VICTORIA HALL.—P. and M., Mr. John Charnley.—This week: Pictures, and John Lord, musical collier; Laura Rose, the lady in black.

CENTRAL HALL.—P., Mr. John Bradley.—This week: Pictures, and Lily Currie.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone. — This week (once nightly): The Blackpool Lyric Amateur Operatic Society present "Amasis." The company includes: Mr. Ben Adams, Mr. Walter J. Balshaw, Mr. Edgar U. Priestley, Mr. W. Crumblehulme, Mr. F. Hardy Andrew, Mr. G. P. Carruthers, Mr. Leonard T. Onslow, Mr. A. V. Haworth, Mr. Will Shaw, Mr. Geo. W. Kay, Miss Emily Jacobs, Miss Maud Banks, Miss Miriam Saynor, Miss Stella Gardiner, Miss Lilian B. Eccleston, Miss Gladys Smith, Miss Beatrice Gledhill, Miss Mabel Deakin, Miss Harriet Roebuck, Mrs. Jack Kemp, Mme. Ethel Stansfield. Next week: "Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace" and "Caste."

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. G. H. Harro; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Frank H. Jepson.—This week (once nightly): The Six Franklins; Lavaile and Bodine; Mr. Frank H. Fox; Miss Rosa Hameo; Laurette and Laurel; Mr. Teddy Elben; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

BOGNOR.

KURSAAL THEATRE.—P., Mr. Wm. Tate; M., Mr. Harold Reading.—This week: Mr. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath's company in "Aladdin." The cast includes: Miss Daisy Hurdle and Miss Francis Walker, Mr. Alf. Leslie, Mr. Chas. Resti, Mr. Robert Dennant, Messrs. Hastings and Vaughan, Miss Felicia Firmin, Mr. Millar Wilson, Miss Prudence Ayrton, Miss Marie Gilbert, Mr. Harry Spawton, and Miss Vivian Vanna. The Pekin Quartette of Dancers and Miss Vivian Vanna in speciality dances.

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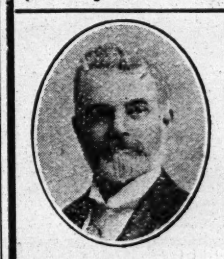

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PIER THEATRE.—M. D., Messrs. M. W. Shenley and A. Carter; Asst. M., Mr. C. Flude.—This week (last four nights): Mr. Arthur Hardy's company present "The Speckled Band." The cast includes: Mr. E. Vassall Vaughan, Mr. A. Corney Grain, Miss Agnes Marey, Miss Joan Marshall, Messrs. Maurice Drew, James Horstead, George W. Barnes, Herbert Bradford, V. Franklin, A. King, Victor Lusk, H. E. Ainger, Frederick Reynders, Gerald Rodgers.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. John Moncur.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Lionel Rignold and Charles Macdona present "Fanny's First Play." The company includes: T. Conner, Gordon Simpson, Algernon Syms, Olive Baxter, Richard Green, F. Payne Palmer, L. Herbert, L. Sealy, jun., Charles Macdona, Adelaide Grace, Frank G. Bayly, Nellie Hodson, E. H. Paterson, Marie Rignold, Ethel O'Shea, Gilbert Ritchie, Herbert Garthorne. T. M., Mr. L. Herbert. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "Bunty Pulls the Strings."

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome (Bolton), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Arthur R. Harrison.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Geo. Black presents "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Kitty Upton, Miss Gertie Rex, Miss Annie Cohen, Miss Daisy Melbourne, Mr. Percy Johnson, Mr. Stanley Vandyke, Mr. Bert Earle, Mr. Jack Melville, Mr. H. White, Mr. Horace Horner, Messrs. Firth and Forth, Miss May Gibson. T. M., Mr. Cyril Smith. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

GRAND. — P., Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. Alf. Booth.—This week (twice nightly): Jack Morrisey, bushman from Australia; Ronald George, instrumentalist; Valvo, ventriloquist; Blake and Granby, comedy duo; Harry Harvey; Jessie Albini, comedienne; the Gascoignes, comedy jugglers; the Flying Julians; pictures. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

BOOTLE.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Pennington Estate Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Pennington; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Shaw. — This week (once nightly): Mr. James Kiddie presents "Cinderella." T. M., Mr. Thomas Swinton. The company includes: Mr. Willie Barrett, Mr. Will Kirk, Mr. Billy Wesley, Mr. Leo Bliss, Miss Queenie Mayor, Miss Lily Ennis, Miss May Grayce, Miss Florrie Porter, Miss Bertha Irving, Miss Sophie Pareezer, Miss Ada Tyrrell, Miss Lilian Dannel, Miss Gertie Newall, Mr. Edgar Selwyn, Mr. Robert Payne, Miss Bessie Willow, Miss Vallie Valmore, Miss Lily Carney, Miss Violet White, Miss Freda Collard, Miss Muriel Bleasdale, Miss Bertha Bartell. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "The Slave Girl."

BOSCOMBE.

HIPPODROME.—P., The South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. S. Charlton.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Frank Leedham, the Milsted-Bell Trio, the Westbrooks, Mr. Arthur Croxon, Mr. J. F. Elliston presents the Meymotts, in comedy playlet, "In the Future"; Guy and Grahame; Mr. Harry M. Vernon presents "Canada," cast includes: R. Mansell Fane, F. Jacques, J. F. Brandon, A. Gordon, Miss Peggy Kennedy, and A. C. Chappell; pictures. Next week, Scenes from "Wild Australia."

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons; R. M., Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Cyril Maude presents "Bunty Pulls the Strings." The company includes: Mr. Colin M. Johnston, Mr. Lowe Mackenzie, Mr. Edward Lynton, Mr. A. P. Roxburgh, Mr. James Duncan, Miss Madge Ross, Miss Clara Yates, Miss Stella Campbell, Miss Adah Dick, Miss Evelyn Ormonde. T. M., Mr. Walter D. Nicoll. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.45. Next week: "The Sunshine Girl."

WINTER GARDENS.—This week: The Municipal Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Dan Godfrey, Hon. R.A.M., Mus. D. to the Corporation, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, at 3 and 8, Saturday at 8; Tuesday, at 3 and 8, the Municipal Choir and Orchestra present "A Tale of Old Japan" and "The Wedding of Shon Maclean"; Saturday, at 3, pianoforte and vocal recital by Mr. and Hon. Mrs. Julian Clifford; Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings, and Wednesday afternoon, Ben Lawes, comedian; Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Miss Elsie Warner, vocalist.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. John Hart; M., Mr J. Richardson.—"The House that Jack Built" maintains its popularity, and Mr. Hart's enterprise is again reaping its reward. The audiences are large, and the appreciation of the company's efforts and the feast of beautiful scenery and dresses is very hearty.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. F. Laidler; G. M., Mr. N. Hepworth; A. M., Mr. F. Yearsley. —"Cinderella" is proving another of Mr. Laidler's big successes. Full houses are the rule, and laughter and applause continuous and hearty.

THE EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Percival Craig.—Messrs. Macdonald and Young's production, "The River Girl," with the versatile Mr. Stanley Brett as Bobby, charming Miss Jane Eyre as the Gipsy, and quaint Mr. Horace Jones as the Waiter, forms a big attraction here this week. A fine chorus is a feature of the comedy, which is beautifully staged, and the efforts of the principals, who are capitally supported, are productive of very hearty laughter. The Water Nymphs, the Sisters Finney, give a graceful and clever tank performance; Metz and Metz, the conversational comedians, are very good dancers; the card tricks and palming accomplished by Bi-Ber-Ti are remarkably clever; Edwin Lawrence is very funny in his scena, "Scroggy, the Scout"; Albert Rees is an excellent mimic; Thora presents a clever novelty in ventriloquism; Harry Webber's Hebrew comedy and excellent imitations are heartily enjoyed; and the pictures, which are very interesting, together with Ernie Grossmith, light comedian, complete the bill.

THE PALACE.—L., Mr. F. Macnaghten; M., Mr. Will A. Jackson.—"The Second Mrs. Chester," a capital comedy sketch, is presented very successfully here this week by Sid Bedford and a capable company, who support him well as Percy Pimple. A charming instrumental scena by the accomplished Louis Brocades is also a feature of the excellent programme; Agnes Tina introduces some clever mimicry; the Van Der Koors are most diverting quack illusionists; "A Dream of Oliver Twist" is a novelty presented by Fred Evans; Bugler Carr gives a clever turn as an equilibrist; the Oran Trio of Gymnasts display remarkable strength of the jaw in their novel feats; and the pictures are very entertaining.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Brighton Theatre Royal, Ltd.; M., Mr. Lawson Lambert.—The pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," closes its run here this evening (Saturday).

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M. D., Mr. Ernest Gates; G. M., Mr. Ben Court.—The pantomime, "Red Riding Hood," is still doing good business here. Miss Queenie Essex as Red Riding Hood, and Miss Louie Beckmann as Boy Blue, submit very pleasing vocalisation; Messrs. Stacey and Williams are amusing comedians; and Miss Dora Sawyer makes a charming fairy.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. W. H. Boardman.—The following are here this week: T. Elder Hearn, protean illusionist; Miss Marquis, with her admirably trained ponies; Ernest H. Mills, clever art sketcher; the Three Lyres, instrumentalists; Nina Gordon, a delightful mimic at the piano; Messrs. J. E. Vedrenne and Dennis Eade's company in "Susan's Embellishments"; Phil and Nettie Peters, American comedy artistes; and Addie Adell, actress vocalist.

WEST PIER THEATRE. — S., Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Messrs. Rutland Barrington and Eustace Burnaby's company is here with "Ways and Means." Mr. Rutland Barrington submits an excellent impersonation of Robert Dennison; Miss Olive Wade as Kitty Tyson, and Mr. Eustace Burnaby as the Marquis of Savedale merit high praise; Mr. Guy Dawson's Sir Beves Glastonbury, and Mr. Arthur Ackerman's Lionel Glastonbury are well played; Miss Emma Stockley makes a charming Mrs. Fantin; and able support is rendered by Miss Marian Ripley and Miss Delia Drew.

PALACE PIER THEATRE. — M., Mr. Gilbert Laye.—Mr. Iden Payne's company is here this week with "Katawampas," a musical play for children of all ages. The piece is admirably staged, the music is bright and tuneful, and the choruses and dances are well rendered. Mr. Esme Percy submits a clever enactment of Krab, the Cave Man; Miss Sylvia Dawson is a very pleasing Olga; Miss Jessica Black is diverting as Sarah Ann; Pater and Mother have capital exponents in Mr. Philip Lawton and Miss Evelyn Craven respectively; special dances by Miss Oliva Novina, Miss Irene Winter, and Miss Bertha Brocklehurst are warmly appreciated; and the augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. R. Gower Brown.

COURT THEATRE.—P., Brighton Court Theatre, Ltd.; M. D., Mrs. M. Barrasford; M., Mr. H. R. Lynn.—This week (twice nightly): Sid Cotterell and company, including Miss Violet Hope, in "Tantalising Terpsichore"; Syd Kemp, comedian; Kitty Curtis, male impersonator; pictures. Matinée, Thursday, at 3.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P. & M., The Representatives of the late Mr. J. M. Chute; R. M. & T., Mr. J. Ellis Miller: Mus. D., Mr. G. R. Chapman.—"Dick Whittington" is attracting full houses, and the performance goes remarkably well from start to finish. The scenery, dresses, and appointments generally are up to a high standard of excellence, and the company is an efficient one all round.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mrs. Emma Carpenter; G. M., Mr. F. W. Carpenter; R. M., Mr. H. C. Alty; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin Jacobs.—"Cinderella" is having a very successful run here. The company is capable and hardworking, the scenery and dresses are both good and appropriate; and the whole pantomime goes very smoothly.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; R. M., Mr. N. Preston-Hilary; A. M., Mr. F. S. Green; Mus. D., Mr. Howard W. Galpin.—Chung Ling Soo heads the programme, he is assisted by a large company, including Miss Suee Seen, and his various illusions, etc., are as astounding as ever. The Zenga troupe of Russian dancers present a fine exposition of whirlwind dancing, etc.; the company includes Mons. Stepanoff, an expert in top-boots; Ludwig Amann does some good work as an impersonator of celebrated persons, etc.; Coram, ventriloquist, is appreciated; the Delevines do well as acrobatic comedians; Marcus and Gartelle display agility in dancing on skates, etc.; Myfanwy Newell has a pleasing soprano voice, and sings both tastefully and effectively.

EMPIRE.—R. M., Mr. Harry Lucas; Mus. D., Mr. Louis Gourvitch.—Herbert Darnley's company is here in the comic sketch "Persevering Potts," with Jack Williams in the title-rôle; the sketch goes exceedingly well; Abel and Welsh amuse as eccentric comedians, contortionists, etc.; Ralia and Mampas present a fine Continental dancing act; Tom Reno, comedian, is appreciated; Dorothy Royal is a pleasing comedienne; the Three Bros. Huxter present a clever acrobatic interlude, entitled "Languid 'Enery"; Eva, Betty, and Westrelle Gordon score with their refined musical act; and interesting pictures conclude.

BEDMINSTER HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. A. J. Carter; Mus. D., Mr. Maitland de Lacy.—The Zigeuner Quartette give an excellent musical turn; the three gentlemen are skilled instrumentalists (violin, 'cello, and piano), and the lady is a charming vocalist; the Brothers Potts and company amuse with their capital sketch, entitled "A Double Trouble"; Mazuz and Mazette do a clever turn as comedy benders, acrobats, etc.; Harry Brown, coloured comedian, is appreciated; Bell and Leaton amuse with their Scotch golf act, entitled "Wee Scotch Laddie"; Baby Watson is a clever and vivacious child comedienne, and, assisted by Miss Florrie, entertains with "Baby's Night Out"; Whitmore Brothers do some smart rag-time dancing on pedestals; Sammy Weston, American entertainer, obtains applause; and pictures conclude.

PALACE.—M., Mr. Horace Livermore; Mus. D., Mr. Frederic Fey.—Hamilton's excursions and diorama of a "Tour Through Switzerland" is proving attractive. The solo vocalists are Mr. H. G. Francombe, tenor, and Mr. David Llewellyn, basso.

COLSTON HALL.—Mme. Melba gave a fine concert here on Monday evening last. There was a large and fashionable audience, the large hall being full in most parts. The eminent soprano was in fine voice, and she was most enthusiastically applauded. Mme. Melba was assisted by Mr. Edmund Burke, baritone; Mons. Marcel Moyse, flautist; Miss Una Bourne, solo pianiste, who were all most successful; and Professor Lapierre tastefully accompanied at the piano.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; M., Mr. Arthur Collingwood.—This week (twice nightly): "Jane Shore," presented by Mr. Beaudyn's company, including Mr. A. R. Harper, Mr. Montague Beaudyn, Mr. Geo. Overs, Mr. Jack Darnley, Mr. Arthur Britton, Mr. J. Leon Courtville, Mr. A. A. Tomlin, Mr. Fred M. Hood. Miss Cissie St. Elmo, Miss Marion Keith, Miss Maud Hill, Miss May Barrett, Miss Nellie Cardner, Miss Phyllis Rae, and Miss Irene Munroe.

BURNLEY.

VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week (once nightly): Mr. J. F. Elliston presents the pantomime, "The Goose with the Golden Eggs." The company includes: Mr. Alex. Godfrey, Mr. George Goodfellow, Miss Eva Godfrey, Miss Nancy Benyon, Miss Jenny Gregson, Mr. Will Pfounds, Mr. T. A. Glover, Mr. Frank E. Melville, Mr. Ireland Cutter, Miss Nellie White, Miss C. V. Adrienne, Morton Comedy Duo, Miss Edith Rolfe, Mr. George Hudson, Miss De Monte, Miss Nellie Black. Miss Ella Mavelle, Miss Sophie Kingsmill, Miss Norah Darrah, Miss Claire Revell, Miss Molly Desmond, Miss Madge Daly, Miss Louie Carrington, Miss Sonnie Somerville, Miss Gen. Wiseman, Miss F. Almina Avis, Miss Mabelle Rose, Miss Frances Wrenham, Miss Leah Lee. T. M., Mr. L. Dalrymple. Matinées, Tuesday and Saturday at 2. Next week. "Puss in Boots."

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Boises; Zakaree Ermakov; Miss Jean Robb; The Imries; Miss N. Brierley and Hal Fenton; Mr. Lea Manti; Miss Dulcie Milner and Mr. George Storey; Mendel, the blind pianist; and pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—P., Palace Theatre and Hippodrome (Burnley), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. Rintoul.—This week (twice nightly): Beatie and Babs, juvenile artistes; Florence Cooper, singer; Dexter, Almasio and Yamina, juggler and lady tumbler; Stuart Cleveland in "A Policeman and a Man"; the Mayvilles; H. Connorton presents his latest illusion; Four Royal Scots; pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; B. M., Mr. E. de Hague Body.—This week: Mr. Alexander Marsh presents on Monday, "Hamlet"; on Tuesday, "Romeo and Juliet"; Wednesday. "A Tale of Two Cities"; Thursday, "Merchant of Venice"; Friday, "A Midsummer Night's Dream"; Saturday, "The Three Musketeers"; and a matinée on Saturday of "As You Like It." The company includes: Mr. Alexander Marsh, Mr. Wilson Gunning, Mr. Ian Fleming, Mr. Edwin Beverley, Mr. J. William Mollison, Mr. Henry Oscar, Mr. W. Edward Stirling, Mr. Edmund Tennant, Mr. Frank J. Fay, Mr. Vickers Smith, Mr. Leonard Trollope, Mr. A. G. Fenn, Mr. Oswald Dobson, Mr. Chowey Thorne, Mr. Malcolm Watson, Miss Kathleen Batty, Miss Freda Fay, Miss Sheila Rose, Miss Margaret Vaughan, Miss Hilary Sturdy, Miss Agnes Gagan, Miss Dora Mason, Miss May Grimshaw, Miss Carrie Baillie. T. M., Mr. Albert Cavanah. Next week: "The Amazons."

BURY (LANCS).

ROYAL. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; A. A. M., Mr. J. G. McPherson.—This week: "Robinson Crusoe," presented by Mr. and Mrs. John Walters. The company includes: Miss Dorothy Veitch, Miss Freda Plowden, Miss Nell Rene, Miss Elsie Edwards, Miss Kitty Liske, Miss Esme Ellesmere, Miss Annie Carling, and Miss Doris Somerset; the Marius Low Dancing Girls, Bros. Aston, Baby Beaty, Mr. Harry Murr, Mr. Harry Rousby, Mr. Walter Lennard, the Stevanos, Mr. Edwin Ludlow, Mr. Tom Hulme, Mr. Billy Sands, Miss Jessie Hardacre, Mr. Dan Best.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; A. A. M., Mr. J. G. McPherson.—Pictures still prove a big attraction, and there are also two excellent variety turns.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Ernest Sims.—This week: Mira Jenson, mezzo-soprano vocalist; Talbot and Pearce, musical comedy artistes; Jennie Alexander, in refined act, "Cosmopolitan Lovers"; and Wilson and Crook present "The Twelfth Man," with Charles Ashwell as the Man. Pictures conclude.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Miss Florence Glossop-Harris; G. M., Mr. Max Jerome; R. M., Mr. James Mason.—This week: Florence Glossop-Harris and Frank Cellier's Shakespearean company in "The Taming of the Shrew," "Hamlet," "Much Ado About Nothing," "Twelfth Night," "Macbeth," and "Midsummer Night's Dream." Cast includes: Messrs. Edward Dunstan, Arthur Layland, Doane Gardiner, Frank Pringle, William Podmore, Christian Morrow, Walter Carr, Hawksworth Dix, Frank Hughes, Marsh Dunn, Maurice Ingram, and Frank Cellier; Misses Marjorie Allen, Sybil Ruskin, Kate Clive, Arline Simms, Mona Cox, and Gertrude Gilbert.

BUXTON

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; M. & S., Mr. Fred T. Boucher; Deputy, Mr. G. Taylor.—This week: Mr. Alfred Denville presents "The Miracle," with the following cast: Mr. Clifford Rean, Mr. J. H. Clyndes, Mr. Dobson Paige, Mr. Alfred Denville, Mr. R. Ossulston-Ricke, Mr. John Denville, Mr. George Austin, Mr. T. R. Bannister, Mr. Alexander Camm, Mr. C. H. Carten, Mr. Philip Tremayne, Mr. G. Philips-Bosworth, Mr. George Gordon, Mr. H. Webster, Miss Hilda Playfair, Miss Patricia Bostock, Miss Mary Alexander, Miss Elsie Savile, Miss Maud Bamford, Miss Gertrude Carten, Miss Betty Stannard. Matinée, Saturday, 3. Mus. D., Mr. Harry Harrup.

HIPPODROME. — L. & M., Mr. Allan Milton. —This week: Captain de Villiers and his wireless airship, assisted by Miss Villiers in tours around the theatre, and demonstrations in manœuvring; Polly and Day, comedy couple; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Le Roy.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE. — New Theatre (Cambridge), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. B. Redfern; S., Mr. H. Hall.—This week (Thursday, Friday and Saturday): Mr. George Alexander's company in "Bella Donna." Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Hawkins and Frank; M., Mrs. Hawkins; Mus. D., Mr. Davis.—This week: May Maurin, vocalist; Day and Direen, clog dancers; Walter Biggs, comedian; the Kents, vocalists; the Musical Warwicks; Rohde and Roche, comedians; and pictures.

CARDIFF.

NEW THEATRE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. Robert Redford.—Next week (once nightly): Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Robert Redford present "The Forty Thieves." The company includes: Mr. Jack Sheridan, Mr. Willie Garvey, Mr. Leonard May, Mr. Albert Felino, Miss Ethel Eden, Miss Dorothy Craske, Little Jack Marks, Mr. Archie McCaig, Miss Eda Walden, Miss Renee Reel, Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon, Mr. J. Ward, M. Ivan Kotchinsky.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. C. Hamilton Baines; R. M., Mr. Arthur Beaufort; Mus. D., Mr. A. Brennan.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Max Allen's Co. presents "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Mr. J. Milne Taylor, Miss Ethel Hardacre, Miss Betty Fairfax, Mr. Hodgson Taylor, Miss Bessie Bedford, Mr. Keith Kenneth, Mr. Christopher Steele, Miss Gladys Lloyd, Miss Margaret Anderson. G. M., Mr. Edwin T. Heyes; A. M., Mr. N. G. Appleby. Also presented: "A Sister's Honour," by Miss Gladys Lloyd, Mr. Keith Kenneth, Mr. C. Steele. Next week: Mr. Morton Powell presents "Two Little Vagabonds." Matinée, Saturday, 2.15.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—This week (twice nightly): Gene Greene; morality play, entitled "Everybody," cast including Mr. C. L. Mulcaster, Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton, Mr. Wyn Weaver, Mr. Edmund Lea, Mr. P. Lawton, Mr. M. Somerville, Mr. Gilbert Yorke, Mr. George Acton, Mr. S. Kemble, Mr. W. Clacton, Mr. Winterton, Mr. Wynne, Miss Daphne George, Miss Violet Blyth-Pratt. Also Les Marbas, acrobatic dancers; Mr. Jack Thomas; Mr. Wilfred Burnand, character actor; Mr. Louis J. Seymour, light comedian; Miss Marie Goodwin, comedienne; Campbell and Barber, cyclists; Miss Millie Payne; and pictures.

CARLISLE.

HER MAJESTY'S.—M. D., Mr. Sidney Bacon; R. M., Mr. Harry Armstrong.—This week (second week) of Mr. J. F. Elliston's "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Viola Hamilton, Miss Meg Hamilton, Mr. Will Terry, Miss Ollie Dennie, Mr. Jack Cromo, Miss Edith Netting, Miss Dorothy Vernon, Mr. Chris Baker, Miss Adey Ellis, Mr. Will Seymour, Miss Ruby Reene, Miss Mabel Langford. Next week: "The Glad Eye."

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. J. D. Askew; Mus. D., Mr. Noel Vincent.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Montgomery and Jazon present "Cinderella." The company includes: George Norton, Ennis Parkes, the Antipons, Ryde and Beeman, Rhoda Ring, Gertie Douglas, May Godfrey, Linda A. Arthur, Ethel Brailsford, Leo Fields. T. M., Mr. Edward Beesher. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

CASTLEFORD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Chas. Gadsby and Sons; B. M., Mr. Harry Masterman, J.P.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Harry Foxwell's play, "Only a Mill Girl." The company includes: John Burton, Jack M'Caig, Harry C. Robinson, Rupert S. Carlton, Bernard Lovett, Edwin Clarke, Roy Gordon, William Beck, Paddy, Alex. Thurston, Joseph Foster, T. Henry Melton, Bertram Taylor, Tom Myers, Daisie Cook, Emmie Doris, Alice Greenwood.

QUEEN'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—P., The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.—This week (once nightly): Four Huzzar Girls, and "The Sentry"; Jack Edwin, comedian; and pictures. Picture matinées, Monday and Saturday, 3.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; A. M., Mr. Lionel Barnard; Mus. D., Mr. Albert E. Vicary.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Kennedy Allen presents "The Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Mr. Fred Ingram, Mr. H. P. Owen, Miss Dorothea Temple, Miss Valerie Valletort, Miss Gladys Peters, Mr. Michael Dwyer, Mr. Kennedy Allen, Miss L. Williams, Miss Eileen Grist, Mr. Fred Solo, Mr. James Horne, Miss Sybil Attenboro. T. M., Mr. Percy Tyler. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

EMPIRE.—Joint M. D., Messrs. Oswald Stoll and Ald. H. E. Davis, J.P., C.C.; R. M., Mr. Lionel Melville.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Marie Studholme and company in "Her Ladyship"; the Whittakers, in "Dick Whittington"; Chris Van Bern, eccentric monologuist; Iva Voyce; Andos Troupe of Happy Little Japs, acrobats; Joe Hayman and Mildred Franklyn, in "Cohen's Mistake," and pictures.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—This week (twice nightly): Ruby Maybutt, speciality dancer; Deer and Daring, in comedy act; Western sketch, "All Square"; Mahon and Dufor, in "The Sleeping Car"; Williams and Wells, wooden-shoe dancers; Geo. Landport, comedian; Peggy Pryde, in all her latest successes; and pictures.

CHELTENHAM.

OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—This week: Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company, in "Find the Woman." The company includes: Mr. Frederick Victor, Miss Agnes Verity, Mr. Olaf Hytten, Mr. Arthur Elwyn. Miss Marion Lockey, Mr. Ernest Cassell, Mr. Oliver Crombie, Mr. Walter Goodwin, Mr. Lewis Clarke, Mr. James Carr, Mr. Fred Charles, Mr. Arthur Seymour, Mr. Matthew Forsyth, and Miss Sybil Clayton. Next week (first three nights): Miss Julia Neilson and company, in "Sweet Nell of Old Drury." Second part of week: "The Mormon and the Maid."

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Shakspere Shenton.—This week: Inez and Pym, in gymnastic act; Harlan and Rolleson, in a musical entertainment; and pictures.

THEATRE OF VARIETIES AND CINEMA DE LUXE.—M., Capt. N. Blood.—This week: Harry Lyle, comedian; Blanche Ray, comedienne and dancer; and pictures.

SHENTON'S PICTURE PALACE, TEWKESBURY.—M., Mr. Noel B. Shenton.—This week: Renot, the American newsboy, and pictures.

CLYDEBANK.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; R. M., Major George Mitchell; Mus. D., Mr. A. de Gabriell.—This week (twice nightly): The Five Greenlees, in novel scena; Geo. Maston, comedian and mimic; Leoville, lady wire walker, assisted by Sandy McGregor; the Lorettes; Clarke and Davis, in Hebrew act; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

COLCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Chas. Macdona; L. & M., Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—This week: Mr. Alexander J. Haviland, Mr. G. Edwin Clive, Mr. Herbert Vere, Mr. Harry Colbeck, Mr. E. Ashworth, Mr. T. Castello Williams, Mr. Stephen Markley, Mr. Frank Forest, Mr. Herbert Wright, Mr. Tom Russell, Miss Joan Harcourt, Miss Amber Wyville, Miss Phyllis Vaughan. G. M., Mr. Alex. Haviland. A. M., Mr. T. C. Williams. Next week: Shakespearean Repertoire.

HIPPODROME. — P., The Hippodrome (Colchester), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. C. Turner Hallet.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Sydney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter present "The Little Damozel." The company includes: Mr. Gerald Venning, Mr. F. Castleman, Mr. Harold West, Mr. William Matthews, Mr. Albert C. Clarke, Mr. F. Robert Alliston, Mr. Charles Hersee, Miss Miriam March, Miss Jenny Lynn.

CORK.

PALACE THEATRE.—M., Mr. Richard M. Magrath.—This week: Signor Ventura, Italian tenor; the Rubensteins, duo of juvenile musicians; the Al De Winnie Duo, in balance turn; Hal Miller, comedian; Gerald Wyatt and Denise Dirome, in "009 West"; and pictures.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is here this week in "Little Red Riding Hood."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. T. Newsome; R. M., Mr. J. E. Wright.—This week: The Eight Ragtime Darkies, Nixon Grey, Fred Land, Jesse L. Lasky and company, Victor Andre, the Mezzettis, and the Four Powers.

CREWE.

NEW THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; R. M., Mr. L. F. Testot; Mus. D., Mr. Barrie Lee.—This week (once nightly): Arthur Carlton presents "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Mr. Wallace Boscoe, Miss Bostock, Miss Lallah Davies, Miss Lilian Fenn, Miss Ida Dorrie, Miss Dickie Dunn, Mr. Norman Langford, Mr. George Spry, Mr. George Franklin, the Fimans, Mr. Carson Hicks, Mr. Wallace Boscoe, Mr. Harry Wys, Miss Queenie West, Miss Beatrice Alexander, Miss Phœbe Dawson, Miss J. A. Jackson, and Miss Freda Wells. Matinées, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "An Oath of Vengeance."

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE. — M. D., Messrs. Dick Adams and Ernest Archer. — This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance's company in "The Whip." The company includes: Mr. William Kershaw, Mr. Fred Morgan, Mr. J. Gerald Jordan, Mr. Laurence Tessier, Mr. Eric Hudson, Mr. Ernest Darrell, Mr. Douglas Campbell, Mr. Bert Threadgift, Mr. Frank G Vyvyan, Miss Mary Thorne, Miss Ruth Henton, Miss Madge Girdlestone, Miss Maisie Stuart, Miss S. Vane, Miss Marie Greenhous, Miss Clara Fenn, Miss Jean Royce, Miss Gladys Bell, Miss Nellie Vincent, Mr. Dan Thomas, Mr. W. Desborough, Master F. Eager, Mr. Percy Rowland, Mr. Claude Allingham, Mr. Hugh Densmore, and Mr. Herbert H. Young. T. M., Mr. W. Wright. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Next week: "The Glad Eye."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Alfred Powley; Mus. D., Mr. Len Trevor. —This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Sydney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter's company in "Facing the Music." The cast includes: Mr. Chas. Groves, Mr. Louis Palgrave, Mr. Keith J. Shepherd, Mr. Lionel Howard, Mr. Watkin Wynne, Miss J. Middleton, Miss Beatrice Marsden, Miss May Edward Saker, and Miss Russell Spiers. Next week: "The Flag Lieutenant."

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Eustace Jay; Mus. D., Mr. Leslie Russell.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Cecil Bevan, Mr. Arthur Cleave, and Miss Beryl Mercer in "Their Point of View"; Jan Rudenyi, Mr. Drew Mackintosh and Miss Hilda Stewart in "Capita," Rosie Archer, Charles Vincent, Fred Earle, Ina Lorimer, Jack and Evelyn, Will Driscoll, Evie Greene, and pictures.

DARLINGTON.

ROYAL THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. James Bell; A. M., Mr. L. P. Prosser. — This week (twice nightly): C. Vernon Proctor's company in "What Happened to Jones." T. M., Mr. Raymond Dudley. The company includes: Mr. Charles Sewell, Mr. G. Carlton-Crowe, Mr. Frank Venn, Mr. Raymond Dudley, Mr. Claude Seaton, Mr. John Lirwill, Mr. C. Vernon Proctor, Miss Harrietta Polini, Miss Nancy Clutterbuck, Miss Sara Dudley, Miss Christine Jensen, Miss Connie Meadows, Miss Amy Rudd. Next week: "Cinderella."

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Sydney B. Stringer. — This week (twice nightly): Lalla Selbini presents famous productions; Rag and Tag, comedy acrobats; John Macawley, actor vocalist; Will Douglas and company in "The Merry Demons"; Bert Marsden, comedian; Hine Wake, comedienne and dancer, and pictures.

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Darwen Theatre Royal Co.; G. M., Mr. Thomas Baker.—This week (once nightly): Miss Edith St. Clare's pantomime, "Aladdin." The company includes: Messrs. Harry Shaw, Bob King, Harry Watson, Oliver Conroy, Misses Ivy Gallard, Nellie Bowden, Lilian Ramsdale, L. Harris, Grace Lucas, and J. Hart. Specialities by Mme. Holt's Follies, and Maro Duo, in triple bar act. Next week: "The Face at the Window."

PUBLIC HALL.—L., Messrs. Riding, Hardcastle, and Rawlinson; M., Mr. J. D. Rawlinson. —This week (twice nightly): Beale and Broadway, singers and dancers; Leonora Smith, soprano vocalist; and pictures.

ALBERT HALL.—P., Messrs. Bradley and Hindle.—This week (twice nightly): Pulo, juggler and cartoon artist; Little Star Dandies, singers and dancers; and pictures.

DERBY.

GRAND.—P. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Chas. Denley; Assist. M., Mr. J. B. Torr. —This week: "The Hope," by Mr. George Dance's company, comprising Messrs. Franklyn Bellamy, J. L. V. Leigh, H. Phydora, R. S. Trelawney, M. Weston, H. Hardy, F. Sealey, F. C. Cobbe, J. M. Watson, J. Baxter, F. D'Esterre, L. J. Banks, V. Harboard, B. Phillips, Misses Ivy Sheppard, Hilda Vaughan, Enid G. Forde, Daisy Gwynne, Irene Gordon, Winifred Burke, Freda Wharton, and Marjorie Lawson.

PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assist. M., Mr. A. J. Knight—This week: Mr. Joe Collins' pantomime company, in "Sinbad the Sailor." The company includes: Misses Addie Lennard, Queenie West, Dorothy Payne, Ethel Cullinan, Eileen Sercombe, Messrs. Harold Baker, Will Sullivan, Geo. Millard, Arthur Charrington, Jack Raynor.

VICTORIA ELECTRIC THEATRE. — This week: Gladys Warburton, protean and lady cornetist; Sisters Lillian, duettists; and pictures.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome (Devonport), Ltd.; L. and M., Mr. G. E. Prance.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Edward Marris's pantomime, "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Winnie Preece, Miss Nora Burke, Miss Rosie Gaston, Miss Norah Melton, Miss Ethel Robertson, Miss Audrey Leslie, Miss Doris Williams, Mr. Arthur Gallimore, Mr. Ken Gallimore, Mr.

Croft, supported by Kathleen Naughton in a Scottish character sketch, entitled "The Last Roll Call"; Jack Chambers, negro stick manipulator; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs. Edward and McIntosh; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Blyth.—This week (twice nightly): Cosgrove and Donlon, vocalists and dancers; Gladys Watson, comedienne and dancer; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

NEW HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Mr. A. E. Binnall; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ruse.—This week (twice nightly): Muller Moon, coon singer and dancer; May Meldrum, soprano vocalist; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

WEST END CINEMA.—S. and T., Mr. Alex. Mitchell. — This week (twice nightly): Variety turns and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—L. & M., Messrs. Murray King and Clarke; Mus. D., Mr. Wilson B. Dibble.—This week (once nightly): For the first three evenings of the week, Mr. Louis Meyer's company in "The Son and Heir." The company includes: Mr. Edmund Maurice, Mr. Max Leeds, Mr. Norman Trevor, Mr. Raymond Lanzerte, Mr. Reginald Owen, Mr. Bobbie Andrews, Mr. Charles Daly, Mr. Lambert Plummer, Miss Cynthia Brooke, Miss Ethel Dane, Miss Jean Cadell, Miss Mary Griffiths, and Miss Ethel Irving. For the remainder of the week: "The Witness for the Defence."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash.—This week (twice nightly): Sie Tahar's Great Zienat's War Tumblers, Arab acrobats; Raglus, eccentric juggler; Mr. Jimmy Danvers, assisted by Miss Beatrice Erle, in "Rehearsing a Pantomime"; Miss Jess Rivers, comedienne; Mr. George Payne, comedian; Miss Lily Young, versatile vocalist; Mr. Tom Rose, vocalist; and the Hippodrome Bioscope.

PIER PAVILION.—M., Mr. George Hayes; Mus. D., Mr. E. W. Peilgen.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Andrew Melville's company in "Monte Cristo." The company includes: Mr. Austen Milroy, Mr. Arnold Winters, Mr. T. W. Dunscombe, Mr. C. W. Standing, Mr. Richard Hunter, Mr. Wilson Coleman, Mr. Hugh Montgomery, Mr. H. W. Monte, Mr. Phil Harper, Miss Grace Turner, Mr. Frank Seymour, Mr. H. Smith, Mr. W. E. Johnson, Miss Kate Walfred, and Miss Etheldreda Taaffe. Next week: Mr. Lodge-Percy and Miss Henrietta Schrier's company in "Moths" and "Camille."

DEVONSHIRE PARK FLORAL HALL.—M. & S., Mr. E. A. Brown.—Every afternoon and Monday and Wednesday evening: Skating, with music, on inner maple rink. On Saturday evening Mrs. Brown Potter will give a lecture on "Hindoo Philosophy." Cinematograph exhibitions are given every afternoon and evening in the Pavilion.

EAST GRINSTEAD.

WHITEHALL THEATRE.—P., Mr. W. Christopher; R. M., Mr. F. C. Maplesden.—This week: Mr. Frank Weathersby presents "The Witness for the Defence." The company includes: Mr. Roland Daniel, Mr. George Delaforce, Mr. S. P. Goodyer-Kettley, Miss Dorrie Roberts, Messrs. Alec Alves, Herbert Moule, Charles Kipp, Ernest Beaver, Harry Wynne, and Misses Nellie Parkinson and Elsie Roberts.

ECCLES.

CROWN THEATRE.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Albert Rogers.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Heidelburgs, Continental comedy acrobats; Harpe and Harper, in vocal and musical act; and pictures.

EDINBURGH.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. John Darlison; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—Mr. George Edwardes's company entered upon the closing week of the engagement in "The Dancing Mistress" on Monday, a crowded audience giving testimony by enthusiastic applause and hearty laughter of their appreciation of the pleasing musical comedy.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Wm. Whitehead; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—The pantomime of "Sinbad" has proved to be an exceedingly popular production here, and it goes without saying that continued representations have given it a splendid smoothness of go which commends the piece to the large audiences that nightly crowd the theatre. Miss Maudie Thornton has deepened the favourable impression of the opening performance. Her grace and charm are undeniable, and carry the conviction that this young actress is fitted for a higher class of work than mere pantomime. Miss Phyllis Monkman as Ruby dances with great neatness, and acts with much dash and humour, while the amusing impersonations of the leading comedians, Mr. Tom Foy and Messrs. Cullen and Carthy, keep the house in the best of good humour. The Lottie Stone Troupe give exhilarating exhibitions of special dances, and the singing of Miss Sheila Gale as the Fairy is admirable.

KING'S THEATRE.—P., the Edinburgh Construction Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. P. L. Howat; Mus. D., Mr. A. Douglas Wilcox.—This week (once nightly, Saturday matinée at 2): The King's pantomime, "Dick Whittington." Next week: The Carl Rosa Opera Company.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. T. Ainsley Cook; M. D., Mr. James Howarth.—Reverting again to vaudeville after a spell of pantomime, Whit Cunliffe has been the special attraction this week in an excellent bill, his entertaining songs and smart topical allusions being greatly relished. Woodward and Page display their versatile accomplishments with good effect as bicyclists, musicians and step-dancers; Mabel Sinclair is a clever ventriloquist; and La Pia's terpsichorean speciality, "The Spirit of the Waves," is in every way acceptable. The mysterious soprano, L'Incognita, delights her hearers with a choice selection of vocal numbers artistically rendered; Dort and Leonard are thoroughly up to date as comedy acrobats; Kitty Prince contributes a pleasing comedienne turn; Fred Edwards and Amy Yates are exceedingly diverting in their farcical absurdity, "Kleptomaniacs"; and the Tyneside comedian, Adam Tomlinson, provides amusement in his best form.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. R. C. Buchanan; R. M., Mr. Horace W. Ebutt.—Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday: Mr. George Dance's company in "The Chocolate Soldier." Cast includes: Mr. Villiers Arnold, Mr. Harry Cross, Mr. Charles Sims, Miss Alice Coverick, Miss Florence Hylton, Miss Maggie Gorman, etc. Thursday, Friday and Saturday: Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in "The Mousme." Caste includes: Mr. Herbert Glenny, Mr. Guy Buckland, Mr. Eric Barrington, Mr. Joseph Victor, Mr. John E. Swinburne, Mr. Gibb McLachlan, Mr. Arthur Elgar, Mr. Wallace Myles, Mr. Edward Dodds, Miss Ruth Wynne, Miss Cynthia Eckert, Miss Mdlle Jeune, Miss Peggy O'Mara, Miss May Coleman, Miss Eva Brickwell, Miss Cicely Munro, Miss Dorothy Dovetown, Miss Daisy Buckland, Miss Kathleen Cotter, Miss Phyllis Hughes, Miss Constance Garratt, etc.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. J. E. Atkinson.—This week: Jennion's Canadian marionettes; Louie Kerns, coon; Sam Thomson, Scotch comedian; and Len Hale, the McLean Girls, and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. J. E. Atkinson; R. M., Mr. E. E. Cooper.—This week: Gallacher and West, patter comedians and dancers; Tom Colley, Scotch comedian; Rex and Sirene, potpourri artistes; and pictures.

FERNDALE.

NEW WORKMEN'S HALL.—G. M., Mr. David Williams.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Bowes presents "The Forty Thieves." The company includes: Mr. Charles Towers, Miss Emmie King, Miss Ethel Mavis, Mr. Will Parkin, Mr. Sid Vance, M. Zeimar, Mr. Ted Freeling, Mr. Harry Scorey, Mr. Tom France, Miss Nellie Scorey, Miss Trix, Miss Trixie, Miss Sadie Fern, Miss Hambrook, Miss Hinks, Miss Ford, Miss Davies, Miss Connell, Miss Kemble, Miss Evans, Miss Connor, Miss Vernon, Miss Lawns, Miss Sibyl Rayne, Mr. Percy Mavis, Miss Gladys Edwards, Miss Ethel Zeiman, Miss Florrie St. John, Miss Cissie Hopkins, Miss Rosie Gandy, Miss Lily Stoddart, Miss Iris Roneo, Miss Phyllis Roneo, Miss Hilda Roneo, Miss May Roneo, and Miss P. Roneo. Next week: Miss Florrie Gallimore.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. B. Hampton.—This week (once nightly): Pantomime entitled "Goody Two Shoes." The company will include: Mr. Fred Fowler, Miss Dorothy Vardon, Mr. Paddy Dene, Mr. Eric Dale, Mr. Jamie Dallas, Miss Desme Lorelle, Miss Lence Lorelle, Mr. Jimmy Russell, Miss Lilian Saunders, Little Dorothea, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford, Miss Helen King, Miss Lily O'Sullivan, Miss Kathleen Collings, Miss Minnie Watts, Miss Evadne Cadman, Miss Gladys Grafton, Miss Winifred Foster, Miss Ethel Langton, Miss Cissie Thompson, Misses Amy Fitzgerald, Florence Lorelle, Phyllis Jones, Grace Elliott, Cecilia Elliot, Norah Courtenay, Cynthia Eckhart, Ruby Fairfax, Vera Dominy, Marie Dalmer, Daisy Hoolrook, Nellie Wilkman, Alice Dulton, Norah Larola, Dorothy Croft, Amy Fitzgerald. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. E. C. Howitt. — This week (twice nightly): Messrs. F. Marriott-Watson and James Ussher present "The Man Tempted Me." The company includes: Mr. Aubrey Norton, Mr. Tony Snape, Mr. Juan D'Alberti, Mr. Geo. Tempest, Mr. F. Marriott-Watson, Mr. Jesse Ablett, Mr. Maurice Clifton, Mr. Antony Forde, Mr. Richard Newman, Mr. John Raymond, Mr. Bert Chaffer, Mr. Eric Mortimer, Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne, Miss Phyllida Rushby, Miss Ada Gower, Miss Florence E. Florence. T. M., Mr. F. Marriott-Watson.

KING'S THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. R. F. Douthwaite; A. M., Mr. M. S. Hammond.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott present "The Great White Chief." The company includes: Percy Folliss, Russell Norrie, Charles E. Johnson, Leonard Maitland, Maurice Love, Lionel Hardinge, Frederick Carr, Victor Ellerton, Harry Furniss, F. Wilson Lowther, Wangatah, Susquenka, Fred F. Smith, Dorothy Charles, Phyllis Elton, Mrs. Charles Draycott. T. M., Mr. Charles E. Johnson.

GILLINGHAM.

GRAND.—L. & M., Mr. W. T. Beattie; Mus. D., Mr. C. Dowell.—This week: Edwards Crossland's Melody Makers in "The Burglar's Dream": Will E. Francis, comedian; Gracie O'Neill, comedienne and dancer; Bert Waterworth, light comedian and dancer; and pictures.

GEM.—P., Messrs. C. and S. Goodman; M., Mr. C. Goodman.—Wal Clinton, comedian and dancer; Dolly Daly, comedienne; and pictures.

GLASGOW.

KING'S THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Robert Courtneidge presents "Princess Caprice." The company includes: Mr. Gordon Cleather, Mr. Albert Kavanagh, Mr. Harry Ray, Mr. Jo Monkhouse, Mr. Horace Lingard, Mr. Charles M'Leod, Mr. James Stevenson, Mr. Basil Kempsfield, Mr. Lamont Dickson, Mr. Leslie Vernon, Mr. Lewis Oliver, Mr. Lane Mott, Mr. A. M. Barnard, Mr. Percival Latimer, Mr. Eric Thorne, Miss Mary Dandridge, Miss Olive Purcell, Miss Gwen Kinross, Miss Berta Donne, Miss Doris Vinson, Miss Lillian Constance, Miss Adriene Yates, Miss Isabelle Dillon, Miss Marie Blanche. T. M., Mr. Wm. Morgan. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; A. M., Mr. Harry F. Ashton.—That funny fellow Billy Merson continues to be the life and soul of "The House that Jack Built," which is drawing record houses nightly, backed by the Policeman of W. Fullbrook and the Bill Durden of Leonard Barry, his Sammy, is all that can be desired. As Jack, Gwladys Soman is winsome, while the Prince of Fred Barnes is the last word in dashing light comedy. Ida Valli is delightfully vivacious as Sue, her work with Billy Merson being of the highest order. Daisy Yates is a pleasing Charity, and the Dame Durden of Joe Nightingale is full of agreeable humour. The Fairy has a graceful exponent in Ivey Latimer, while Reginald Crompton has the figure and voice of an ideal Demon King. The dancing as supplied by Blanche Leiper and the Eight Russell Girls is excellent.

GRAND.—P., Moss's Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Henry J. Crane.—"Mother Hubbard" is still attracting good audiences here, but the last two weeks have been entered upon. Two more popular favourites than Miss Daisy Dormer and Miss Mabel Medrow would be hard to find, and their popularity has steadily increased since the pantomime started. Another very clever couple are Misses Rosie Chandler and Dollie Payne, who bring down the house with "Everybody's doing it." The comedians, Messrs. Jay Laurier, Harry Conlin, Charley Harvey, and the Brothers Griffiths provide lots of funny interludes, and are ably assisted by that clever comedienne, Miss Gwennie Harcourt. Geo. Conquest, jun., make a good dog, and a special word of praise is due Miss Leah Hanman and Miss Madge Diston for their dancing.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—P., Mr. Rich Waldon; A. M., Mr. Hugh Murdoch; Mus. D., Mr. Henri Vollmer.—Mr. Rich Waldon has in his long managerial career produced many brilliantly successful pantomimes, but his latest effort, "Goody Two-Shoes," certainly eclipses all previous efforts. Mr. Waldon is responsible for the "book," which is brimful of good things, whilst Mr. Henri Vollmer, the musical-director, has composed and arranged the music. The scenery is a triumph for the artist, Mr. J. C. Bouton, and the dresses are magnificent. Miss Kitty Dale as Harry makes a dashing principal boy, and is besides a most charming vocalist. Miss Jennie Hartley as Goody is bewitchingly dainty, and her singing and dancing are excellent. Mr. Dan Whitley as the Baron's son Dan is the happy possessor of an inexhaustible stock of fun and keeps the house in hearty laughter. The remainder of the cast, which includes Mr. Ernest Plumpton, Mr. George Manton, etc., are untiring in their efforts to amuse.

METROPOLE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Arthur Jefferson; A. M., Mr. Harry C. Edwin; Mus. D., Mr. Fredk. Rogers.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company is doing remarkable business here with the sporting drama, "The Gambler," which is admirably acted by the company. In the part of Dick Randall Mr. Scott Leighton has opportunities of which he makes the most; while Helen Randall is portrayed with much charm by Miss Maisie Handbury. Mr. Leonard S. Harrison as Captain Cyril Stanley makes a typical villain; and Miss Constance Medwyn as Lady Paula Ware earns the contempt of the whole house for her share in the evil-doing. Mr. Frank H. St. Clair gives a characteristic bit of acting as Snig Fowler, a racing tout. Great credit is due to Mr. Dane Clarke, an actor of experience, and as Peter Burton Mr. Clarke brings the part into prominence. Mr. Frank Caffrey as Danny Ryan kept the audience in good humour throughout, and has able assistance from Miss Jessie Scott as Rosie Ray, Mr. Joe Black as The Cherub, and Mr. Alf. Wright as Pincher. Realism is given to several scenes by the appearance of four racehorses.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss's Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. G. Rhodes Parry; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. B. Moore.—Arthur Roberts and Co. top the bill in a breezy nautical musical playlet, entitled "H.M.S. Robertus II." Mr. Arthur Roberts is the cause of screams of laughter from beginning to end. The rest of the artistes all fill their parts well. The marvellous Astis are a troupe of lady acrobats who perform some daring and marvellous feats; a clever dancing act is given by the Four Rays; Torcat, assisted by Mlle. Flor D'Aliza, presents a wonderful performance by trained roosters; Smythe and Hartman are American artistes of great ability, who entertain in "Bits of Everything"; a clever singer who receives great applause is Henry Helme; and Billy Matchett is a comedian who takes, as does also Millie Doris, low comedy artiste.

PAVILION.—P., The Glasgow Pavilion, Ltd.; M., Mr. Evan Good.—The principal attraction this week is Bertram Wallis and his Musketeers, including Herbert Clayton, Frederick Norton, Allan Dale, and Nelson Keys, all of whom work with a will and provide a real vocal treat; the musical act of the Bell Hattons is a very pleasing item; and lovers of a good song are ably catered for by William Maxwell, the operatic tenor; the comedy juggling of the Marquis De Gonza Trio is amusing; Cissie Lupino dances with grace; Renee Ray's beautiful tableaux are fully appreciated; a diverting acrobatic turn is provided by Hall and Earle; May Milby, a clever character vocalist; and Maud Lorettis, smart male impersonations, complete a very entertaining programme.

PALACE [illegible] Waldon; St. V[illegible]

—Keen disappointment was felt in the Palace on Monday evening at the non-appearance of Mr. John Clyde, who was indisposed. He was to have played with Mr. Durward Lely in an adaptation of the Scottish play, "The Bonnie Brier Bush." His place was ably filled by Mr. W. G. Robb, of Glasgow. The sketch was a decided success. "The Red Prince" is a capital sketch, which is presented by Mr. James Willard and Co.; Lindsay and Harte, old Glasgow favourites, again appear, and receive a hearty welcome; Maud and Gill present an eccentric comedy act with success; equilibrists and gymnasts of exceptional ability are Durazcoe and Azella; Walter Stanley is a comedian who pleases; and the Three Lyndons also take well.

COLISEUM.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. Arthur E. Barnes.—Messrs. Harry Day and Edward Lauri still occupy this hall with their successful pantomime, "Dick Whittington," large crowds attending every performance. Miss May Moore Duprez as Gretchen puts in a lot of good work, and her singing and patter are greatly appreciated. Harry Weldon as Jack is responsible for much of the humour in the production. Other important parts are filled by Miss Willmott Karkeek, Miss Alice Nixon, the Bros. Bass, Jack Bland, and J. Salter, who all contribute largely to the success of the pantomime. The chorus is exceptionally strong, and the setting and dressing are on an elaborate scale.

ALHAMBRA, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Alfred Butt; M., Mr. Edward Foster.—An excellent company here is headed by Messrs. G. P. Huntley and Harry Grattan, assisted by Miss Eva Kelly, in the amusing sketch, "Curios." The acting of Mr. Huntley as the old dealer is extremely good; and the others give clever support. A good turn is that of Willy Zimmermann, in his impersonations of famous musical conductors; Little Frank Wilson gives an enjoyable musical turn; the Royal Banzai Family of Japanese acrobats show great skill and daring, while the youngest member is developing into a humorist of much cleverness; Rem-Brandt's aerograph cartoons are smartly done; Carbrey Bros., two nimble dancers from America, are accorded a hearty recall for their smart work; Lyons and Cullum, in a variety act, and Rose Dainton, entertainer, complete an attractive programme.

LYCEUM (GOVAN), LTD. — R. M., Mr. J. H. Oakden. — This week the Lyceum have Messrs. Harry Day and Edward Lauri's pantomime, "Cinderella," twice nightly. Miss Empsie Bowman in the part of Cinders is exceptionally good, and sings in excellent style. Miss Rosalie Jacobi as the Prince makes a dashing appearance. The fun of the piece is well looked after by the Ugly Sisters, Page, the Baron, and Brokers' Men, played respectively by Mr. James Ross, Mr. George Loyal, Mr. George Bass, Mr. Jack Harris, and Messrs. Kimberley and Melbourne. Miss May Romayne is a capital Dandini. The Lottie Stone Troupe and Austin Troupe dance admirably.

SAVOY.—L., Lillie Williams, Ltd.; M., Mr. H. Godwin.—After a successful run of pantomime this popular place of amusement has opened with a strong variety programme. The bill is headed by Murray and May's company in smart playlet, entitled "The Kiss," which had a flattering reception; Davidson and Gordon create a favourable impression in numerous songs; and Kathleen Gray maintains her popularity as a past Glasgow principal boy; Jessie Cameron is a pleasing Scottish vocalist; and the Four Markies contribute a high-class musical entertainment. The other members of the company include: Cohen and Davis, comedy acrobats; Harold Perry, comedian; Ben Verity, coon impersonator and dancer; Ella Turner, male impersonator; Bob Stephenson, comedian; Les Valdos, smart pot-pourri artistes; Jolly Jimmy Walker, the boy in blue; and Ardath's alligators.

OLYMPIA.—L. & M., Messrs. de Frece and Edelsten, Ltd.; M., Mr. John M'Millan; Mus. D., Mr. Lex Holmes.—"The Cowboy's Redemption" tops the bill, with the American author and actor in the title-rôle, assisted by Miss Florence Russell and company. The Czar's Royal Troupe of Dancers give a good show in conjunction with Minnie, a dancing dog; among Scotch comedians, J. G. Aitken takes a prominent place; Gicard, backward juggler, gives a turn which is well indicated in the programme as marvellous; the performance of the Milton and Mora Trio, trampolin bar performers, is unique. Other good turns are Ivy Aberdare, comedienne and wooden-shoe dancer; Percy Farrimond, the singing collier; the Haydas, acrobatic tumblers; and the Olympia pictures.

STAR, PARTICK.—P., Star Picture and Vaudeville Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Chandos.—Heading the bill are the Three Arleys in a refined pot-pourri act, of which some wonderful acrobatic work by highly-trained dogs is a feature; Geo. Campbell, the singing blacksmith, is possessed of a remarkable bass voice. Fun and frivolity are the outstanding features of the Houston Trio contribution, their sketch, entitled "The Best Man," creating the greatest hilarity. Pictures conclude.

PANOPTICON.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; M., Mr. Wm. Sinclair.—Wee Georgie Knight, a clever slack-wire performer; Rob and Roy, in song and dance; Johnnie Osborne, descriptive vocalist; and Rose Rolland, comedienne, comprise this week's programme, together with the pictures.

PRINGLE'S, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Ralph Pringle; R. M., Mr. George Paulton; Mus. D., Mr. William Milne.—Gulliver and his doll with the laugh supply a very clever ventriloquial turn; the Sisters Simms sing and dance with much charm; and the pictures are excellent.

CASINO.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; R. M., Mr. H. G. Glenroy.—This week (twice nightly): Mint and Mart., in "Pranks in a Drawing Room"; the Starr Trio, musical comedians; Harry Hall, comedian and raconteur; the Sisters Ormonde, duettists and dancers; and pictures.

IBROX PICTURE PALACE.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; R. M., Mr. W. Sowerby.—This week (once nightly): Flo MacCormack, comedienne; Marks and Elvey, Hebrew impersonators; Harry Fowler, singing shoeblack; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, at 3.

HENGLER'S. — Sensational spectacle, "The Balkans," with circus and variety turns.

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE THEATRE.—L. & G. M., Mr. Will Smithson; R. M., Mr. R. T. Rea.—This week (twice nightly): Carl Fredricks' pantomime, "Aladdin." The company includes: Miss Della Fredricks, Miss Kathie Cowley, Miss Edith Devonshire, Miss Gertrude Russell, Miss Dolly Pauline, Miss Cecilia Jones, Miss Clare Burrows, Sisters Graham, Mr. Alfred Shaw, Mr. Paul Bryan, Mr. Wilfred Dane, the Bros. Bristow, Little Terry, Mr. E. Emmett, Mr. W. Derby, Mr. Carl Fredricks, Miss Florrie Grey, Miss Daisy de Lorelle, Mr. Albert Domett, Mme. Pauline, Miss Emile Jones, Miss Kitty Page, Miss Viola Hamilton, &c. Next week: "The Dollar Princess."

KING'S HALL.—L., Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.—This week: Baby Sinclair, male impersonator; David Poole, ventriloquist; and the Warringtons, acrobats.

GRANTHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. J. A. Campbell; A. M., Mr. W. Marshall.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Arthur Carlton presents "Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Mr. Barry Gilmore, Mr. Fred Ramsdale, Mr. Fred Russell, Mr. Sam Weller, Mr. Will Smith, Miss Miriam Stuart, Miss Queenie Victoria, Miss Irene Barnard, Miss Dorothy Dryden, Mr. Arthur Lawrence, Miss Cicely Haines, Miss Marie Royce, Miss Belle Green, Miss Violet Duggan, Miss Milly St. Clair, Miss Alean Graham, Miss Hilda Viviane, Miss Irene Moss, Miss Stella Leslie, Miss Ada Thomas, Miss Lucy Johnson, Miss Daphne Webster, Miss Lily Desmond, and Miss Marjorie Desmond. B. M., Mr. A. Hamilton Warder. Next week: "The Quaker Girl."

GRAVESEND.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Grand Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. Collins; D., Mr. M. Hyman; M., Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Fred Eustace, in "The Amber Light," Cora Deane, Austin Webb, Miss Ethel Arundell, the Musical Sisters, the Tudor Sisters, "The Family Name" (including Miss Marie Glynn), and pictures.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

AQUARIUM.—Sole P. & M., Mr. Walter H. Nightingale; A. M., Mr. Henry Furnival.—This week (once nightly): Carlotta de Yonson presents "The Great Detective." The company includes: C. Douglas Carlile, Lee Gilbert, Chas. A. Carlile, Percy Wentworth, George Derrit, Jed Gerald, Walter Brothers, Alf. Gosnell, Alex. Walters, Gerald Blake, Frank Emptage, Theo. Hanning, [illegible] Resham, Miss Georgie Steed, Miss Mina [illegible]

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. & M., A. B. and J. J. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. H. H. Shaw.—This week (once nightly): Mr Herbert Ralland presents "The Girl in the Train." T. M., Mr. Bay Russell. The company includes: Mr. Bay Russell, Mr. Percy Watson, Mr. F. W. Bowes, Mr. C. F. Cooke, Mr. Stafford Dickens. Mr. Griffin Campion, Mr. Cecil Moylan, Mr. Philip Cooper, Miss Rosa Burchell, Miss Winnie Hall, Miss Dagmar Dargue, Miss Ethel Oliver. Matinée Saturday, 2.30.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. J. H. Curry; Asst. M., Mr. Henry [illegible]arlton; Mus. D., Mr. J. R. Bingley.—This week: Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, in "The Queen Mother." The company includes: Messrs. Richard Bosco, Herbert Mansfield, Frank Strickland, Wm. Lenton, Wm. Greene, Arthur Denton, Eric Morden, Douglas Tremayne, Wilton Reed, John Rimmer, and Master Frank Beresford; the Misses Ruth Zillwood, Laurie Potter, Lina Nazeby, Etter Arnold and Mary Fulton.

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. F. Verner Walford; A. M., Mr H. S. Surfleet; Mus. D., Mr. T. Stevens.—This week: H. J. Corner and Leo Ward present "1,000 to 1 Against"; the Misses Lytton and de Silva, vocalists; Mlle. Yetta, wire dancer; Chas. Emerald and Maude Dupre, in "A Hot Scotch"; Griff, juggler, ventriloquist; Walter Saxby, comedian; and Dorsch and Russell, in "The Musical Railroaders."

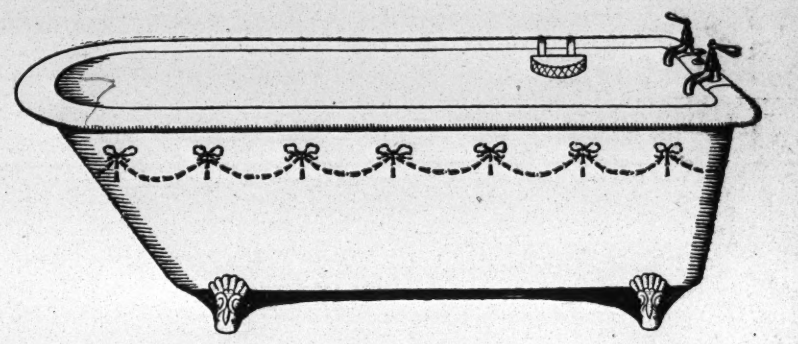
GUERNSEY.

THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S.—L., Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; R. M., Mr. George A. Deighton.—This week (once nightly): Moss Bryan, singer and dancer; Trumpet-Major Wix, king of posthorn, trumpet, and bugle; and the Wanas, in gymnastic act; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3 p.m.

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin James.—This week: The D'Oyly Carte Principal Répertoire Opera company, including Mr. Fred Billington, Mr. Henry Herbert, Mr. Strafford Moss, Mr. Leicester Tunks, Mr. Sydney Granville, Mr. Allen Morris, Mr. Frank Stewart, Miss Olive Turner, Miss Beatrice Boarer, Miss Hilda Cross, Miss Ethel George, Miss Minnie Howell, Miss Louie Rene, and Mr. Henry A. Lytton. M., Mr. H. E. Bellamy; Mus. D., Mr. François Cellier. Next week: "Bella Donna."

GRAND.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Joe Hinton.—This week: Messrs. Travis Green and Graham Winsford's company in "The Pride of the Prairie." The company includes: Graham Winsford, William Hayes, Stephen E. Scanlan, Percy Morton Wright, Arthur Duval, Harry Sidney, Henry Goodier, C. Young Fixott, William Cann. J. J.



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Scientists and physicians account for the extra ordinary benefits of a mustard bath by telling us that the peculiar action resultant upon the combination of the mustard and the bath water is due to the powerful oils found in the mustard. The scientific explanation is as lengthy as it is true.

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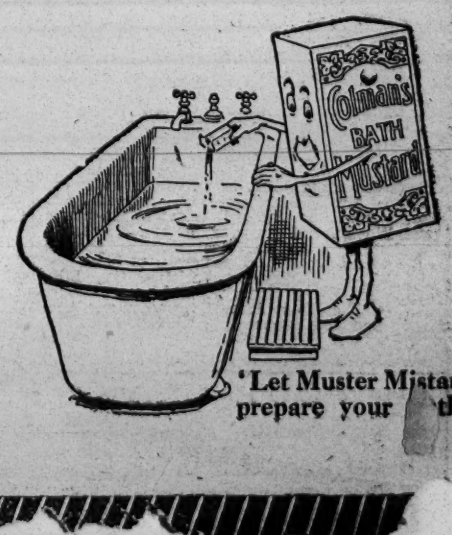

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Stadden, G. Leslie Buxton, Walter Hicks, Cecil Harding, Ling Treherne, Leonard Gardnere, Frank Shirley, Jack Entwistle, Ben Batty, Ernest Williams, Henry Hurst, Fred Horning, Julius Werner, Alfred Sooper, Etta Delamere, Elsie Dene, Mary Pitcairn, and Ethel Bickham. Next week: "A Blind Girl's Love."

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Edgar O. Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest A. Widdup.—This week: Mr. Geo. Carney in "The Fool of the Force"; David Paget, boy violinist; Alan Farman, character vocalist; Masques, in song and posing scena; Genoch, bird and animal mimic; Charles Torbay, comedian; and Broughton and Creedon, contralto and tenor.

HANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Hanley Theatres and Circus, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. Frank Powis.—This week: Mr. Forbes-Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott and company present on Monday and Saturday "Hamlet," on Tuesday night and Thursday matinée "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," on Wednesday and Friday "The Light that Failed," and Thursday night only "Mice and Men." G. M., Mr. Percy Burton. Next week: "The Whip."

GRAND.—P., Hanley Theatres and Circus Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. Dudley Bromwich.—This week: Charles Ulrick, the barrel king; Fred Poplar, comedian; Kitty Wager, comedienne; Leipzic, conjurer; Spiegler and his quintette of musicians; Hyde and Cody Trio in "Jack o' Both Sides"; Barnold's Dog and Monkey Actors.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock.—This week (once nightly): J. F. Elliston's pantomime, "Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Fred Maitland, Rowland and Ford, Fred. Lloyd, Alex. Cameron, Hervey Cameron, Miss Marie Brayman, Miss Rene Marsden, Miss Ethel Haydie, Miss Mabel Costello, Miss Dorothy Meade, Sisters Cairns, and George Melbah. G. M., Mr. H. McClellard; A. M., Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—L. & M., Mr. Albert Maxsted; Mus. D., Mr. J. Carter Staincliffe.—This week: Mr. Raynor's Répertoire company is paying a return visit. The cast embraces: Mr. Raynor, Mr. Milton C. Curtis, Mr. Clinton Badderley, Mr. Chas. Brandon, Mr. Eric Crowther, Mr. Walter A. James, Mr. Tom Welsh, Miss Nellie Bonsor, Miss Dolly James, Miss Gertrude Bonsor, Miss Millicent Granville, and Miss Violet Ennis Lawson. The programme for the week includes: "When We Were Twenty-One," "Billy's Little Love Affair," "Sunlight and Shadow," "Moths," and "Caste," each twice nightly.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. A. M., Mr. C. E. Scutt.—This week, for six nights and matinée, Saturday, at 2.30: Mr. Allan Aynesworth's company in "Ready Money," preceded by "Lady Jane." The company includes: Messrs. Mark Blow, Fred Tooze, Lawrence Ward, Archie Selwyn, Cedric Percival, Cyril Ashford, Aubrey Mather, Wilford Bailey, Douglas Payne, Sidney Lynn, William Holmes, Walter Johns, Frank Hamilton, Jack Thomas, Misses Helen Langton, Adelaide Tanner, Madge Laverton, Dorothea St. Clair Smith, and Miss Olivia Glynn. M., Mr. Arthur Bishop; Mus. D., Mr. Thomas Hilton.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.

GAIETY.—P., Ainsley and Hall; R. A. M., Mr. Robt. Ainsley; Mus. D., Mr. W. Cooper.—This week: Mr. Fred Le Cren's "Sinbad the Sailor." The company includes: Misses Adah Le Cren, Lily Hill, Lily Ward, Kate Gannon, M. Hughes, L. Leslie, D. Maye, Dorothy Kemp, Messrs. Leslie Crossley, James Walters, A. W. Scott, H. Le Cren, and the Oxos.

EMPIRE.—P., Houghton Empire Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. W. H. Lindon Travers.—This week: Carr and Carling, comedians; the Mermaids, swimmers; and pictures.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. Fred Benton.—This week (once nightly): Miss Julia Neilson presents "Sweet Nell of Old Drury." The company includes: Mr. H. Humberston Wright, Mr. Dennis J. Hogan, Mr. Henry Hewitt, Mr. Bellenden Clarke, Mr. Alfred Kendrick, Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Arthur Applin, Mr. Leslie Gordon, Mr. James Carter-Edwards, Mr. Alec Rhaden, Mr. Horace Hodges, Mr. J. R. Collins, Mr. George Dudley, Mr. Telford Hughes, Master Edward Dennie, Miss Violet Farebrother, Miss Betty Bellairs, Miss Mollie Terraine, Miss Winifred Rae, Miss Julia Neilson. T. M., Mr. Arthur Garrett. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.15. Next week: "A Scrape o' the Pen."

HIPPODROME.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. S. Winks.—This week: Mr. Charles Locke's company in "A Blind Girl's Love." The cast includes: Mr. Elton Morgan, Miss Flo Norman, Mr. Edwin Turner, Mr. Erne Turner, Mr. Artie Francis, Mr. Geo. Steel, Miss Adeline Raby, Miss Hettie Senior, and Miss Issa Steel.

PALACE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Herbert Garside.—This week: "The Mysterious Lady in Red"; Tom Purslo, comedian; Miss Marjory Craig, entertainer; Ross and Lewis, comedy entertainers; Boy Pam, singer and dancer; Frank Cass, comedian; the Four Musical Gardiners; Miss Serene Nord and pupils, in a diving performance; Upmann, anatomical curiosity; and pictures.

HULL.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Mortons, Ltd.; M., Mr. W. F. Morton.—"Autumn Manœuvres" is proving a big attraction at the Grand this week. Mr. Geo. Dance has gathered around him a good company, who interpret the comedy with due regard to its requirements. The chorus is a competent one, and responds well to the baton of Mr. Harold Lonsdale. The rôle of Captain Withers is allotted to Mr. Huntley Wright, who meets its call in the fashion expected of him. Miss May Rawlinson plays the part of Alix with no little success. Mr. J. Gordon James is well placed as Captain Falconer. Mr. Oswald Lingard is a very satisfactory Major-General Pomeroy. Miss Beatrice Wilby is all that one would wish as Lady Larkin, and other characters are well cast.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.; M., Mr. George Morton.—On Monday night Mr. T. B. Davis' panto., "Humpty Dumpty," fresh from its triumph at Aberdeen and Dundee, reached the third port, and secured an instantaneous success. There is a certainty that the three weeks' stay will be all too short. The music is well chosen, and included in the company are those able to render the vocal items with proper effect. The jokes are not those which call for the homage due to old age. The company is an excellent one, and is headed by that clever artiste, Stratton Mills, who plays the dame with conspicuous success. Mr. Geo. Danvers caught the taste of the house in the title-rôle. The King is finely played by Mr. Ed. Russell, who, with the dame, keeps the ball of fun briskly rolling. The principal boy is pleasantly portrayed by Miss Minnie Love, whose work is favourably known locally in musical comedy. Her song, "You beautiful doll," is one of the hits of the panto. The Princess is nicely played by Miss Nancy Buckland. Mr. Murray Ashford, as the Demon, sings with full recognition of the music's call. The scenery is excellent, and the whole panto one huge success.

PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. John S. Barnet.—This week (twice nightly): Houdini, in the water torture cell; Alf. Chester, comedian: Durant Bros., entertainers; James Stewart, tramp at the piano; Frank Elliston and company, in comedy sketch; Alec Kendall, comedian; Real McKays, juvenile artistes; Vera Wootton, comedienne; pictures.

TIVOLI.—L., Kingston Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Slingsby.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Arconis, comedy acrobats; Charlie Bell and company, in "The Demon Photographer"; Four Huberts, juvenile artistes; Fred Arthur; Lilian French, comedienne; Mann and Franks, American duo; Three Flying Winskills; the O'Mahonys, singers.

HYDE.

DENTON EMPIRE.—P. & M., Mr. A. Ward, F.R.G.S.; M. D., Mr. W. E. Marsden.—This week (once nightly, and matinée, Saturday): Neil Primrose, comedian; and pictures.

ILKESTON.

VINT'S PICTUREDROME.—P. Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. Aubrey Allen.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Granville's pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Mr. Harry Jones, Miss F. Latham, Miss M. Minster, Miss B. Savage, Miss M. Wallace, Miss Kitty Colman, Miss Ivy Arnold, Miss Marie Estelle, Mr. George Green, Mr. Matt Kilduff, Mr. Evan Davies, Rand and O'Ryan, Betty Boden, Vera Elmore, Miss Maude Phillips, Miss Kitty Clifford, Miss Kitty Garden, Miss E. Burgess, Miss C. Brooks, Miss C. Hornby, Miss Gladys Cooper, and Miss Lottie Garden. Matinée, Saturday, 2. Next week: "Les Misérables."

INVERNESS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—The first three nights this week: The Brothers Nicoll, trick cyclists; Muir Morell, vocalist; George and Nell Greatorex, magicians; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM.—P., The Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; L., Messrs. Murray King, Clarke, and W. H. Savory; R. M., Mr. Cecil P. Blumberg; Mus. D., Mr. H. Lewin Taylor.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance's company in "The Whip." The company includes: Messrs. Bert Golday, Chas. V. Stanford, Frank Powell, Ernest James, Geo. P. Polson, Frank Henry, H. Campbell, Dennis Renton, L. J. Lawrence, Arthur Nicholas, R. Shenford, A. Charrington, R. H. Nash, Fred Elkington, Hy. Walker, the Misses Naomi Neilson, Barbara Allen, Julie Kennard, Violet Roberts, Violet Lindsey, Louie Brett, Lilian Earle, Agnes Hewitt, Mabel Milne, Ethel Wyllie, and Master Leslie Jarvis. Matinée, Saturday. Next week: Mr. Charles Harrington's company in "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock.—This week: Whados Amateur Operatic Co. in "Veronique." The company includes: Miss Maude Orton, Miss Olga Lebeda, Miss Lilian Nash, Miss May Rogers, Miss Lilian Told, Miss Edith Arnold, Miss S. Dixon, Miss Ethel Palmer, Miss Nellie Woodward, Miss Ethel Wainwright, Mr. Cyril Cullingford, Mr. Malcolm Long, Mr. Harry Knights, Mr. Bert Plumb, Mr. Dick Pollard, Mr. Cyril Youngs, Mr. A. O. Ramsey, Mr. A. E. Andrews, Mr. Jack Connell, A. M., Mr. W. J. Harrison. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; A. M., Mr. T. Edward Evans.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Charles Elderton presents the pantomime "Aladdin." The company includes: Mr. Henry Eglington, Miss Agnes Collier, Miss Florrie Curran, Miss Alice Raymond, Miss Minnie Terry, Miss Bella Terry, Miss Lillie Fuller, Miss Annie Webster, Mr. Horace Wyatt, Mr. Herbert Fuller, Mr. George Delamere, the Brothers Granville, Mr. Harry Le Vaine, and Mr. Frank Moore. Also the Sisters Terry, Brothers Granville, the Moores, the Eight Shining Stars, Joy Belles troupe of dancers. Matinée, Saturday, 2. Next week: "Night Side of London."

EMPIRE.—P., The Jarrow Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. Percy Dawsone.—This week: The Two Chynes, comedy artistes; the Caxtons; and the Smythson Comedy company.

JERSEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—L., The Jersey and Guernsey Amusements Co., Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Edward Marris and Albany Ward; R. M., Mr. Stanley Hope; Asst. A. M., Mr. A. F. Williams.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Albany Ward presents "The Massacre," the Three O'Connor Girls, Wee Dot and Dorris, and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

KEIGHLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L., the Hippodrome (Keighley), Ltd.; M., Mr. George S. Holmes.—This week (once nightly, matinée, Saturday, 2.30): Mrs. William Watson's "Little Jack Horner." The company includes: Etty Waldron, Mamie Ellis, Ada Sinclair, May Dinsdale, Olive Sinclair, Maud Naylor, Dorothy Dell, Elsie Slater, Elsie May, Joe Waldron, Frank Coles, Doyle and Massey, Wally Gilbert, Mme. Louie Gilbert, Bert Taylor, J. Hughes, Malidur Cummings, Billy Waldron. B. M., Mr. F. Biron. Mus. D., Mr. Frank Corrie.

KETTERING.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—M., Messrs. Alf Bailey and Co.—This week: Mr. Edward Graham-Falcon's company, with "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Gladys Warren, Miss Glen Darragh, Miss Una Reynolds, Miss Marie Brian, Miss Marie Gibbons, Mr. Fred Lawrence, Mr. Bert Lawrie, Mr. Claud Morton, Mr. Tim O'Connor, and Mr. Bert Lawrence.

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatres Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. J. G. Covington.—This week: The Gillettes, in "The Crazy Postman"; Hardene and Mosford, entertainers; the Paget Trio; Jack Clare, comedian; Mabel Comely, comedienne; and pictures.

COLISEUM.—P., Messrs. Thompson Bros.; M., Mr. A. Thompson.—This week: Will Netta's Jockeys in "At the Races"; Watson and Barker, duettists and dancers; Jack Watson, comedian; Bucher Brothers, gymnasts; and pictures.

KIDDERMINSTER.

OPERA HOUSE.—Licensees, Messrs. Somerold and Co.; M., Mr. Frederick C. Ewing.—This week: Lena Stanton and Harry Joseph's pantomime, "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Lena Stanton, Miss Kitty Kennedy Allen, Miss Marjorie Fraser, Miss Lena Joseph, Mr. T. Owen Hunter, Mr. Jack Hayman, Mr. Joe Houten, Little Keeno, Mr. Fred Ellis, and Mr. Jack Bastow. Specialities by the Sisters Delhi and Kanli.

KING'S LYNN.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Reginald Pareezer; Mus. C., Mr. E. Lester Scott.—For three nights: Mr. C. Adolph Seebold's company have presented the pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Miss Gracie Rosslyn, Miss Vesta Brownie, Miss Sylvia Rosslyn, Miss Elaine Rosslyn, Misses Rosa Charles, Olive Desmond, May Portsmouth, and Freda Butler, Messrs. Harry Walshe, F. Walker, Dai Griffiths, G. Ritchie, J. Farnley, S. Ferris, and Harry Phillips, the Three Chanters, the Six Little Fireflies, and Ferris and Farnley.

LEEDS.

GRAND.—M. D. & Licensee, Mr. John Hart.—This week (once nightly): Mr. John Hart's pantomime, "Humpty Dumpty." The company includes: Miss Ella Retford, Miss Irene Meldon, Miss Ethel Newman, Miss Dorothy Leigh, Miss Elise Malpas, Miss Hebe Bliss, Mr. Josh Dixon, Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald, Mr. Frank Danby, Mr. Ernest J. Langford, Mr. W. Downes, Mr. George Elliston, Clark's Crazy Comedians. T. M., Mr. Wynn Miller.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. P. C. Rowe.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Burns presents "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Miss Victoria Carmen, Miss Vera Rochdale, Misses Tennis and Laune, Miss Florrie May, Miss Florrie Elliston, Miss Dowety Gordon, Messrs. Stewart and Morris, Mr. Thomas Warne, Mr. Arthur Wilson, Mr. Bernard Cox, Messrs. Jones-Yorke and Wilson. Miss Jennie Morbey, Miss Bertha Rogers, Mr. H. Griffiths, Mr. Will Lindsay, Mr. Arthur Aiston. T. M., Mr. A. E. Warren. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. Fred W. Wood; M. & Licensee, Mr. Charles Bush; Mus. D., Mr. G. W. Jackson.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond present "An Oath of Vengeance." The company includes: Mr. Polson Turner, Mr. Charles Chandler, Mr. Matthew H. Glenville, Mr. Percy Wood, Mr. Fred Wilberforce, Mr. Lance Usher, Mr. Harry Creamer, Mr. Bob Mann, Mr. William Emery, Mr. Lewis Gordon, Mr. T. Varney, Mr. Richard Hutton, Mr. Geo. Morgan, Miss Daisy Forrest, Miss Gertie Lawson, Miss Violet Stirling, Miss Bettie Bowers, Miss Hattie Hanson, Miss Dorothy Richardson, Miss Ethel Wensley. Matinée, Monday, 2.30. Next week: "The Colombo Girl."

HIPPODROME.—R. M. and Licensee, Mr. Bertram J. Brown; Mus. D., Mr. Herbert W. Lister.—This week (twice nightly): Julian Rose, Hebrew comedian; Stanley Cooke and company in abridged version of "The Man from Mexico"; Three Dancing Middies; Gene Crowe, minstrel; Violet Romney, entertainer; Jean and Josie, in speciality act; Kenneth Lyle Quartette; Moran and Wiser, hat throwers; pictures. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Forty Thieves."

VARIETIES CITY PALACE.—P. and Licensee, Mr. Fred W. Wood; M., Mr. Harry Dunford.—This week (twice nightly): Dare Austin presents "His Wedding Morn," supported by Chas. Fielding; the Shannons, comedy couple; Sydney Brandon; Four Le Roys, in "Down in Oklahama"; Alpho, ventriloquist; the Carsens, in comic speciality act pictures. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

LEEK.

SALISBURY PALACE.—P., The Leek Skating Rink Co., Ltd.; Licensee, Mr. Sampson Salt; G. M., Mr. George Salt; A. M., Mr. George E. Gough; Mus. D., Mr. Harold Ellis.—This week (twice nightly): Angers and Escott, comedians and dancers; Alma Curzon, comedienne and vocalist; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—P. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. J. Andrews; Mus. D., Herr Theo Klee.—This (Saturday) evening the curtain will ring down on the pantomime, "Jack Horner," which has proved such a thorough success all along. The beautiful scenery and dresses have been greatly admired, and the efforts of the company, who have worked splendidly together, has won for them the well-deserved appreciation of the audience. Miss Dorma Morgan, the hero, has worn during her adventures a large variety of dresses, and has established herself as a prime favourite. The other artistes have also become popular, and no doubt to-night many will receive tangible proofs of the Leicester patrons' goodwill.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. J. Andrews; Asst. A. M., Mr. G. F. Warwick; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Vann.—Cowboy dramas are always sure of a good reception in Leicester, and this week Mr. Chas. H. Lester's company are presenting "The Frontier Queen" to excellent business. It is probably the best drama of its class that has been seen here, the realistic manner in which it has been staged adding greatly to the realism of the play. The company is also a capable one.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds; Mus. D., Mr. John W. Lowe.—Leicester's favourite comedian, Fred. Kitchen, is here this week with Mr. Herbert Darnley's company of comedians, who are presenting "Potts in Port," which allows full scope for the many eccentricities of this great merriment raiser. Mr. Kitchin is still as big a draw as ever, and is receiving a splendid reception. Quite a new and novel musical act is being presented by the Adelmann Family, who are scoring a big and well-deserved success on a first visit. The "show" is out of the ordinary, and affords a first-class entertainment. Kate and Tom Major create endless laughter in their well-worked scena, "After the Overture," depicting scenes in a variety artiste's life; George Newburn is always welcome at this hall, his mimicry of various star artistes being life-like; John Weil is a smart conjurer, who brightens his act with his continual patter; Unthan, the armless wonder, plays a violin and cornet solo in a marvellous style; and Ellis Barrieton is a baritone vocalist who sings exceedingly well. Bioscope pictures complete.

PAVILION THEATRE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Fred. Britcher.—An entertaining programme here includes the Four Sisters Netherland, novelty comediennes and dancers, who present a good and popular act; Geo. Harvey and company, including Miss Mamie Stanton, who appear in the cowboy sensation, "The Red Hawk Ranch," which is meeting with the heartiest of receptions; Marie Pascall, the incomparable lady foot juggler; the Two Canadians, in a clever instrumental entertainment; Bert Norman and Will Allen, amusing pattering postmen; Harvey and Stanton, in their really funny comedy episode, "The Lunatic's Dilemma"; and Billy Willis, character comedian. The usual fine list of pictures complete.

EMPIRE.—Sole L., The New Bioscope Company; R. M., Mr. Chas. R. Craig.—In addition to pictures, Gracie Dunbar, a popular young local comedienne and dancer, is appearing here, and is going strong.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole L., Messrs. F. Gould and G. Jordon; G. M., Mr. Geo. Jordon; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Haydock.—This week (once nightly): Charles Edward Clarkson presents his pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Miss Claire Hastings, Miss Olive Young, Little Eva Petrie, Miss Gale, Miss Murray, Miss Myra Douglass, Miss E. Vause, Miss G. Vaughan, Miss Violet Arthur, Mr. Bertie Wyse, Mr. Fred C. Imbert, Mr. R. Martin, Miss Elsie Smithe, Mr. Jack Jackson, Mr. Ted Marte, Mr. Nicklin Williams, Mr. Cecil H. Raymond, and Mme. Verona's Sextette. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "When London Sleeps."

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—S. & A. M., Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Geo. Dance's company in "The Chocolate Soldier." The company includes: Mr. Aubrey Millward, Miss Melba Sharrott, Miss Elsie Craven, Mr. G. Hardcastle, Mr. G. Patterson, Miss E. White, Mr. Davies, Mr. E. Langford, Miss F. Nutkins, Mr. Tom Verity, Mr. R. Harry Barratt, Miss D. de Florac, Mr. Walter Heal, Mr. W. P. Morgan, and Miss Edith St. George.

LEITH.

GAIETY THEATRE.—P., Mr. F. R. Graham-Yooll; G. M., Mr. R. M. Stratmore; Mus. D., Mr. John Crossley.—This week (twice nightly): Valvero's "Naval Bombardment," electric mechanical novelty; Norman H. Lee, black and white impressionist; the Leonas, musical novelty act; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

LINCOLN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; R. M., Mr. Ernest Pope.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. A. E. Smith presents "Jack and the Beanstalk." The company includes: Miss Damarais Du Pere, Mr. Arthur Long, Miss Betty Beryl, Miss Katrina Marche, the Somber Sisters, Miss Elsie Verrier, Miss Eva Linacre, Mr. Harry Kirk, Mr. Will Skidmore, the Brothers Hinson, Mr. Ben Lambe, Mr. Fred Kirk, Miss Gertie Blackie, Miss Polly Goodchild, Miss Phyllis Julian, Miss May Jobin, Miss Edith Allsopp, Miss Edith Cashville, Miss Annie Hill, Miss Florence Herbert, Miss Enid D'Alroy, Miss Vera Leslie, Miss Mollie St. Clair, Miss Dora Manners, Miss Stella Chapman, Miss Kitty Cashville, Miss Gladys Dale, Sisters Marsden, Miss Madge Abbott, Miss Maud Gresham, Miss Alice Gresham, Miss Millie Watson, Miss May Bevan, Miss May Skidmore, and Miss Dolly St. Clair. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. George T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—The pantomime, "Tommy Tucker," is still making money.

SHAKESPEARE.—M. D., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. John Gaffney; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Shea.—"Jack Horner" pantomime continues very merrily.

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Fred Coles; Mus. D., Mr. F. Thompson.—Here this week the attraction has been Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's military drama, "The Wild Girl of the Forest," which has done good business. Miss Nana Fleusburg in the title-rôle played with exquisite taste and judgment; Mr. John A. Riley handled the part of Ioris in tactful manner; as Captain Raccardo Mr. George E. Butler was particularly good; Mr. St. John Stuart afforded every satisfaction with his effective rendering of the Count; Miss Dulcie Lawrence commendably impersonated Princess Floralia; and Mr. C. Clarke showed ability in the character of Penzar. The play was put on in good style.

REPERTORY.—G. M., Mr. Basil Dean; B. M., Mr. T. J. Pigott; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith; S. M., and Producer, Mr. Arthur K. Phillips.—The fairy frolic, "Fifinella," has this week concluded its successful run, which started at Christmas.

KELLY'S.—L., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Reginald Grant; Mus. D., Mr. J. A. Gardner.—The Lyric Amateur Opera Company have occupied the stage here this week with a very worthy production of "The Girl Behind the Counter."

D., Mr. George M. Saker.—The favourite, Mark Sheridan, has been here this week, affording great delight to his innumerable admirers; the sketch, "The Little Puritan," given by France and Stewart was much enjoyed; the popular Veronica Brady pleases as greatly as ever, her songs and patter proving immensely acceptable; as a child comedienne and dancer Doris Duquesne met with much favour; the ventriloquial novelty of Rich Taylor was well received; remarkable trapeze work came from the Aerial Smiths; and other turns were Hal Russ, comedian; Captain Fred Woodward's sea lions and seals; and Gisela and Rose, two talented young ladies who deputised for Robins and Collier, comedians.

LYRIC.—L., Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Mus. D., Mons. R. Klasse.—Fred Willmot's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," has been here this week. Included among the principal artistes were Miss Mabel Osborn (Robin Hood), Miss Mora Hersee (Maid Marion), the Four Minims, Miss Marie May and Miss Clarice Handel (the Babes), Mr. Van Lyndon (Baron), Mr. Harry Elliston (Dame), and August and September (comedians). Specialties were given by the Four Minims, Susie and Vio, and the Five Yorkshire Lassies.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. George F. Slatter; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Braham.—Top of the bill here this week is Harry Champion, a comedian who found great favour; the Three Irvings, in song and dance, pleased greatly; the well-known Phil Herman met with a hearty greeting from many old admirers; "A Bit of String" was the title of a smart little sketch presented very nicely by the Lilly Pearl and Leslie Bell company; an accomplished musical effort was provided by the Romanys; Moran and Tingley earned rounds of applause for their particularly clever upside-down dancing; Guy Rider as a whistler showed high accomplishments; a talented turn came from Horace White, a ventriloquist at the piano; and Daisil Morell introduced some smart rag-time numbers.

ROYAL PALACE.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Frank O'Toole; Mus. D., Mr. G. Dibbert.—"Another Man's Wife" has during the week been given here by the stock company, the principal members of which were: Mr. Harry Tresham (Carlos), Mr. Sydney Grant (Paul), Mr. Leo Montgomery (Sam Smiles), Mr. R. Seath Innes (Bremner), Mr. Cecil Ravenswood (Pelikoff), Miss Gwynne Warren (Inez), and Miss F. Melrose Millett (Lucia).

OLYMPIA.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. E. W. James; Asst. M., Mr. D. Casey; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore.—Tiller's capital pantomime of "The Forty Thieves" has put in its second and final week.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Walter Hassan; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—An excellent pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood," has been played here twice nightly. It was presented by Miss Florrie Forde, who proved a dashing Robin Hood; Mr. Gilbert Payne, as the Baron's Page, caused endless laughter; Victor and Louis were a couple of exceedingly funny Robbers; Miss Stella Esdaile found much favour in the rôle of Maid Marion; the two Babes were intelligently impersonated by little Vi Davis and little Amecia Reynolds; Arthur Stratton was very rich in the rôle of the Baron; Frank Sumner proved a jolly old Friar Tuck; and Austen Lenton helped with the fun in the character of the Dame. Miss Forde's song, "The ballroom by the sea," was a great success, and encores were demanded. The pantomime was full of good things and went with a swing. There was a large London chorus, and augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Orlando Powell.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. Graham Hylton.—This week: Howard and Collinson Trio in pantomime sketch, "Fun in a China Shop"; the Vagges, America's premier bag punchers; and pictures.

LOWESTOFT.

MARINA.—P., Mr. B. Pareczer.—"At the Mercy of the Mormons" is attracting large houses here.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The current bill includes Carlotta Levey, and the Wilton-Heriot Trio in "Artful Alfred"; "The Circus Girl's Fate" is a powerful picture story.

MACCLESFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. W. K. Gatley.—This week: Mr. Frank Adair's company in "A Mother's Love." The company includes: Miss Winifred Acton, Mr. Frank Adair, Miss N. Thone-Hallam, Tiny Hetty, Miss Edith Kirk, Mr. Conrad E. Stratford, Mr. W. Mansfield, Mr. Walter T. Hybert, Mr. Ernest Hamilton, Mr. Gerton Ashard, Mr. Andrew Moore, and Mr. Frank Adair. Next week: "The Mormon's Wife."

MAESTEG.

GEM CINEMA.—L., Poole's Theatres Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. G. F. Knowles.—This week: Silbon's Cats in comedy cat act; the Galgarnos, in Anglo-American comedy, "Caught Napping"; and pictures.

CINEMA DE LUXE.—P., Mr. R. Dooner.—This week: Reardon, Wilson, and Donnett; Jack Crewe, comedian and dancer; Harry Edson and dog comedian "Doc"; and pictures.

MAIDENHEAD.

TOWN HALL.—S., The Town Clerk.—On Thursday, Jan. 30, Messrs. Robert Macdonald and T. B. Young's company with "The Dollar Princess." The company includes: Mr. Charles Midgley, Mr. Derick Knowles, Mr. Norman Bowyer, Mr. J. Austin Green, Mr. Frank Duirs, Mr. Ernest Peirce, Mr. Bert Darrell, Mr. Huntley Gifford, Mr. Donald Gray, Mr. Francis Sawyer, Mr. John Bernard, Miss Margaret Carter, Miss Iris Beresford, Miss Tina Lincoln, Miss Phyllis Desmond, Miss May Lashbrooke, Miss Dorothy Stafford, Miss Mina Goss, Miss Gracie Freeman, Miss Lily Lewis, Miss Cherry Hamilton, Miss May Bradley, Miss Muriel Haynes, Miss Dorothy King, and Miss Nellie Walace-Revill.

NEW THEATRE.—P., Mr. George Gude.—After a successful week playing "The Little Widow" and "Midnight London," Miss Grace Warner is extending her visit for three nights of "Lady Audley's Secret."

MAIDSTONE.

PALACE.—P., Messrs. T. S. Dickie and Co.; R. M., Mr. E. C. Potter.—This week: Mr. Harold Wolfgang and company in "The Torch"; the Four Casinos, rag-time specialists; Bert Danson, comedian; Miss Maude Alexandra, vocalist; Geno Morelle, tramp musician; Miss Josie Colverd, comedienne and dancer; and Darsie and Mori, in their speciality act.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., the United Theatre Co., Ltd.; Licensee & M. D., Mr. John Hart; A. M., Mr. Edmondstone Shirra; Mus. D., Mr. C. W. Chambers.—This week (once nightly): Mr. John Hart presents "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Daisy Wood, Mr. Albert le Fre, Miss Alice Pollard, Mr. Lupino Lane, the Sisters Reeve, Mr. Cyril Thompson, Messrs. Drew and Alders, Miss Lilian McEwen, Miss Madge Vincent, Mr. Johnny Fuller, Mr. Horace Mills. Matinées, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at 2.

PRINCE'S.—M. D. & Licensee, Mr. John Hart; A. M., Mr. J. Garrett Todd.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Edwardes presents "Gipsy Love." The company includes: Mr. Leonard Mackay, Mr. Ian Colquhoun, Mr. Walter Adams, Mr. William Spray, Mr. Grafton Williams, Mr. Kelso Henderson, Mr. C. C. Ommanney, Mr. Lauri de Frece, Miss Avice Kelham, Miss Daisy Burrell, Miss Grace Wixon, Miss Evelyn Harding, Miss Berenice Maxwell, and Miss Blanche Tomlin. T. M., Mr. J. Garrett Todd. Matinées, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2 p.m.

GAIETY THEATRE.—P., Miss A. E. F. Horniman; B. M., Mr. W. Roberts-Marshall; Mus. C., M. Nikolai Sokoloff.—Miss Horniman's Canadian company are by special request playing John Masefield's powerful play, "Nan," three times this week, prior to their Canadian visit. The company is, of course, good all round; but the outstanding performance is the wonderful acting of Miss Irene Rooke in the title-rôle. Mr. Milton Rosmer plays well as Dick Gurvil; Mr. Leonard Mudie scores a big success as Gaffer Pearce; Miss Isabel Beresford is exceedingly good as Kate Pargetter; whilst the remaining parts are well sustained by Miss Hilda Sims (Jenny Pargetter), Mr. Ernest Bodkin (William Pargetter), Mr. Cecil Brooking, Mr. Howard Cochran, Mr. Lionel Briggs, Mr. Paul Hansell; and the Misses Doris Bateman and L. Sabin Bennett. The one scene—the kitchen in the house of a small tenant farmer [illegible] "Car-

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. J. Brearley; Mus. D., Mr. J. Colton.—Mr. Gar Kiddie's pantomime, "Little Bo-Peep," which has been making friends at all the local theatres on the Broadhead circuit, has moved here this week from the King's Theatre, and is keeping up its record of success.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. C. W. Meek; Mus. D., Mr. Edward Bleasdale.—Mr. Andie Caine's popular pantomime, "Dick Whittington and His Cat," already seen at several local theatres, is proving a good draw here. Mr. Andie Caine and Miss Maisie Gerrard play the principal parts.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. J. Mason.

Three Percys, duettists and dancers; J. H. Dew, in vocal scena; and pictures.

MARGATE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Robert Fort; M., Mr. Frank Weathersby.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie present "Milestones." The company includes: Mr. Wilfred Caithness, Mr. Wilfred Eaton, Mr. Fernley Bisshopp, Mr. C. Probyn Dighton, Mr. John Leslie, Mr. Charles Field, Mr. Bert Rouen, Mr. George Hewetson, Miss Nellie Griffin, Miss Lynn Fontanne, Miss Mary Lincoln, Miss Bertha Wilkinson, Miss Alice M. Maude, Miss Violet Gibbs. B. M., Mr. H. F. Nokes; S. M., Mr. Wilfred Eaton; T. M., Mr. E. Taylor Platt. Matinée, Thursday, 2.45. Next week: "The Walls of Jericho."

HIPPODROME.—P., South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter De Frece; R. M., Mr. James Mayall.—This week (twice nightly): Sidney Branegrove and N. C. Slaughter's company in "Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace." The company includes: Mr. Leonard Laurence, Mr. Thomas Young, Mr. Harold Maligny, Mr. Alfred Rivers, Mr. J. Lomas, Miss Hilda Glynn, Miss Mabel Ormonde, Miss Edith Pither, Miss Maud Seegar and Miss Cicely Charlton.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. J. W. Wilkinson.—This week: The Moody-Manners Opera Company are presenting "The Daughter of the Regiment," "Elijah," "Carmen," "Tannhäuser," "Maritana," "Romeo and Juliet," and "The Bohemian Girl."

TEMPERANCE HALL AND CENTRAL CINEMA.—G. M., Israel Price.—This week (twice nightly): The Three Gerbolas, equilibrists; the Falcons, acrobatic comedians; Hans Anderson and his Chicago Girls, in gems of harmony; the Custanes, in a comedy sketch; Connie Mascot, comedienne; Hal Smithers, entertainer, in song and story; and pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., The Empire Palace (Mexborough), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Thomas E. Fox and Mr. Arthur Cunningham.—This week (twice nightly): "The Days," by Florence and Frederick; Myrtle Grove, comedienne and dancer; and pictures. Picture matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

MONTAGU ARMS.—Prof. House. Proprietor, Mr. F. J. Law.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—L. & M., Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; A. M., Mr. W. Ker Chatto.—This and concluding week: Mr. Imeson's pantomime, "Aladdin."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; M., Mr. G. Imeson.—This week: "The Collier's Lass," by J. Newton Cowling's company, which includes Mr. Harry Stainsbury, Mr. Stanley Radcliffe, Mr. Kenneth Jackson, Mr. William Melrose, Mr. Bey Carr, Mr. Bert Johnson, Mr. John Locke, Mr. Easterbrook, Mr. Fred Barnes, Miss Ivy Clowser, Miss Bella Moody, Miss Adele Liddon, Miss Annie Graham, and Miss Elsie Shelton.

EMPIRE.—M., Mr. F. Parker.—This week: Neil Kenyon, Scotch comedian; Ted Mercell, comedian and dancer; Lillian Carter, soprano; Hunter and Bob, comedy artists; Harris Trio, vocalists and dancers; Leo Trippellos Troupe, musical act; May Newall, vocalist; and Three Alvarettas, acrobats.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. T. Thompson; M., Mr. S. Gibson.—This week: Mr. Fred Karno and company in "Perkins in Paris," and Mr. H. Leoline and pictures.

MUSSELBURGH.

PAVILION PICTURE PALACE.—P., Scottish Cinematograph Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Albert J. Ratley Wadman. — This week: George Arnott, comedian; Belle Pattinson, soprano vocalist; and pictures.

LOGAN'S PICTURE PALACE.—Sole L. & G. M., Mr. W. J. Logan.—This week: James Brady, comedian; Harry Platter, comedy juggler; Transfield's Monkeys and Dogs; and pictures.

NEATH.

VINT'S NEW HIPPODROME.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. J. Noice; G. M., Mr. A. Brogden.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Charles Barnard presents "The Girl Who Knew a Bit." The company includes: Frank Lynne, Val Gurney, Bert Eldon, Dan Kelsey, Walter Denham, George Renton, William Parker, E. Watts Phillips, Charles Norman, Mabel Coleman, Elsie Marriott Watson, Lillion Blake, Florence Moore, Grace Garside, and Mary Durant. T. M., Mr. Val Gurney. Next week: "The Babes in the Wood."

GNOLL HALL.—P., Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Vivian Aldridge; Mus. D., Mr. G. M. Butt.—This week (twice nightly): Brothers Carpatii, bar performers; Iwa, the Maori contralto; James Bendon, whistling and singing newsboy; Spry and Monti, in comedy act; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. A. Brogden; R. M., Mr. E. Gilley.—This week (twice nightly): Morton and Elliott, paper manipulators; Brandt and James, comedy duo; Correa and La Criollite, in "Sport in the Ranch"; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

NELSON.

GRAND.—L., Mr. W. C. Horner; M., Mr. H. S. Porter.—This week: Mr. Gar Kiddie presents "Babes in the Wood." The cast includes: Mr. Walter Raynor, Miss Ada Yeates, Miss Eileen Benson, Miss Rose Goodman, Miss R. Sterling, Miss Jessie Allen, Miss Daisy Wilson, Miss Gertie May, Miss Nora Bever. Miss Esme Elsie, Miss Mabel Court, Miss Ethel Clegg, Miss Cora Mason, Miss Nance Hodge, Miss May Alford Miss Katey Burnes, Mr. Dawson Dewick, Mr. Dan Lyall, Mr. Rex Kempton. Brothers Slater, Wee Sisters Wright, Miss E. May Rosslyn, Miss Marion Duncan, Miss Lily King, Miss Dennis Dean. Miss Nellie King, Mr. Bert Allen, Miss Dorothy Fiddle, Miss Eileen C. Byrne, Miss Violet Smith, Miss Constance Profit, Miss Gladys Aston, Miss Lizzie Hornby, Miss Willie Bray, Miss Cecilia Rowan, Miss Maisie Stanley.

PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. J. S. Livesey.—This week (twice nightly): Oswald Williams, illusionist; the Johnstons, in juggling act; Selwyn and Willows; Kennett and Kane; Belle Sylvia, comedienne; Archie Glenn; Chas. Kasrac and Co. in "Buffet de Falls"; and the palascope.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. The Robert Arthur's Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—"The Pink Lady" remains under engagement another week, and Mr. Fred Wright, jun., as the dealer in antiques creates much laughter; Miss Mabel Durrant, who takes the part of his wife, also adds greatly to the success of the piece; Miss Hilda Vining in the name-part captivates the audience early in the performance with her beautiful and well-cultured voice, and Mr. Percy Carr and Miss Gladys Beech in the parts of lover and fiancée are very good.

TYNE THEATRE.—L., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; B. M., Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Messrs. Howard and Wyndham's 28th Tyneside pantomime "Old King Cole" continues to sustain its unabated popularity. By this time all the principals have settled down to their respective parts. More effective comedians than Mr. John Humphries, the Bros. Egbert, and Mr. Frank Fort could hardly be desired, and they continue their efforts with unfailing success; Miss Clara Beck, the dashing principal boy, and Miss Beatrice Guiver, the charming Princess, have both become warm favourites; the Geneva troupe of dancers add greatly to the success of the pantomime.

EMPIRE.—P. Messrs. Moss', Ltd.; R. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; M., Mr. J. W. Kilgour; Mus. D., Mr. J. W. Dawson.—This week: Wish Wynne in comedy character studies; Ernest Shand, the pink of comic smartness; Hart and Johnson, coloured entertainers; Mrs. Graeme Goring and company, in Scotch comedy sketch, "Heid o' the Hoose"; Edie King, comedienne and dancer; Camp and Critic, in farcical absurdity, "Waxworks"; Vittorio and Georgetto, upside-down comedians; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls, in vocal entertainment; Lane and O'Donnell, "the lunatic tumblers"; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Messrs. Walter De Frece and Alfred Butt; M., Mr. T. Gerald Morton.—A programme of unusual excellence is provided at this new and popular resort of entertainment. Changes of marvellous rapidity are shown by Fregolia; Isabel D'Amond and Frank Carter score heavily in vaudeville; Eugene Damond, violin virtuoso, pleases by his various and well rendered selections; the Selbinis are paying a welcome return visit to Newcastle; Yamamoto and Koyoshi, equilibrists, etc., perform some really clever feats; Jake Friedman, comedian, creates much mirth; Herbert Rule proves himself to be a comedian of more than average ability; Jean Harkness and company, in sketch; the Ketos, eccentrics; Bella Mora; Potter, the American-Scot; and pictures conclude.

PALACE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. T. W. Rowe; B. M., Mr. E. B. Clarke.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Geo. Black presents "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Isa Gibson, Mr. Sam Fay, Mr. Jack Conan, Mr. Dan Rodney, Miss Gertrude Gaye, Miss Daisy Gaye, Mr. Feline, Mr. J. Ross, Mr. T. Ross, Miss Jean King, Miss Kitty Rhoades, Miss Masie Grey, and Miss Freda Danilo. T. M., Mr. P. Parkinson. Matinée, Saturday, at 2. Next week: "The Collier's Lass."

PAVILION. — P., The Pavilion (Newcastle-on-Tyne), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. W. Parham Wells.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. J. F. Elliston presents "Puss in Boots." The company includes: Miss Cherry Hardy, Mr. Arthur Mertz, Mr. Will Beanland, Mr. Walter Whittle, Mr. Happy Attwood, Mr. Harry Wilkinson, Mr. Jack Volta, Miss Molly McCarthy, Miss Vivian Stafford, Miss Rosie Westgate, Miss Gertie Leno, Little Lucie Linda. Matinée, Tuesday, 2.30.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—L. & M., Mr. Sidney Cooper.—This week: "The Quaker Girl," produced by Mr. Geo. Dance's company. The company includes: Mr. Hugh Weybrance, Mr. J. W. Hooper, Mr. William Ogle, Mr. Cyril Dane, Mr. Gerald Wynne, Mr. Arthur Mann, Mr. Arthur Hayter, Mr. Henry Dench, Mr. John T. McCullum, Mr. Hayter P. Conrad, Mr. H. Kent, Mr. A. Cavendish, Mr Gordon Payne, Mr. H. Pelwar, Mr. J. Startin Mr. J. Elliott, Mr. H. Langford. Mr. Ronald Geo. Wyley, Miss Sybil Coalthurst, Miss Maud Denny, Miss Lily Alaine, Miss Elsie Wallace, Miss Olga Morra, Miss May Leslie, Miss Kathleen Hadden, Miss Madge Robertson, Miss Dolly Mercer, Miss Jessie Allen, Miss L. Anderson, Miss Gloria Egmont, Miss Nancy Alwyn, Miss M. Wyes, Miss Violet Gower, Miss Lilian Leigh, Miss Nell Demond, Miss Daisy Wilson, Miss Jessie Allen, Miss Sadie North, Miss Lillibelle Anderson, Miss Nina Glynn, Miss Madge Sendon, Miss Ethel Green, Miss Marjorie Bowyer, Miss Phyllis Gwyon, Miss Hilda Becksfield, and Miss Dorothy Dacre. Next week: "The Mormon and the Maid," and Miss Julia Neilson and company in "Sweet Nell of Old Drury."

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Walter T. Simmons; R. M., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Heyes.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Walter T. Simmons' company in "The Heart of a Child"; Radie Stuart, comedienne; the Rappo Trio of eccentric gymnasts; Rose and Challoner, "the porter and the singer"; Prelle's Bijou Circus of performing dogs; Lloyd Morgan, comedian; Edie Gray and Boys in a vocal and dancing speciality; the Bioscope; and the Five X Rays, mad athletes.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Horace Lee; Mus. D., Mr. W. J. D. Damant.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Hart and Moreton's company in "The Arcadians." The company includes: Mr. Alf. Selby, Mr. Edward Jefferson, Mr. Walter Elagert, Mr. Lauri Aster, Mr. Hugh Lyndhurst, Mr. George Dinnis, Mr. G. B. White, Mr. Claude Lawson, Mr. Jack Parson, Mr. Horace Nye, Miss Minnie Rayner, Miss L. Crawford, Miss Gladys Gill, Miss Jean Leslie, Miss V. Davies, Miss Lala Glyn, Miss Isabel Butler, Miss Billie Brahme, Miss Ettie Critchley, Miss Alma White, Mr. Jack Page, Mr. Leonard Slater, Mr. C. Warner, Miss Mabel Funstan.

BOROUGH THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Black Bros.; R. M., Mr. Percy Gibson; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ridsdale.—This week (twice nightly): Lieven and Pantzer, hand balancers; Phil Dooley, in his whistling and dancing act; Halma, dancing juggler; and pictures.

NORTHWICH.

NEW PAVILION.—P., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes; M., Mr. Harry T. Cornish; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur W. Parry.—This week: Amasis, the Egyptian man of mystery; Dale and Daley, vaudeville artistes; Harry Terry, comedian; Nora Dorna, vocalist; Taree, Australian bushman; and pictures.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole M., Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Edwin T. Heys presents Mr. Max Allan's company in "Hindle Wakes" this week. The company includes: Mr. Norman Clark, Miss Cecile E. Anson, Miss Helena Walbram, Mr. Ernest E. Imeson, Miss Kate Osborne, Mr. Stephen Wentworth. Mr. John Cecil, Miss Madge Trenchard, and Miss Margaret Beck. Preceded by monologue by Miss Madge Trenchard. Matinée, on Saturday at 2.30. Next week: Mr. Geo. Edwardes' company in "The Count of Luxembourg."

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; M., Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—This week: "Peggy," under the management of Mr. John Halpin. The artistes include Messrs. Ellis Holland, R. J. Callan, C. H. Turner, B. Cunningham, A. Victor Martin, Frank Merry, T. H. Tindall-Hogge, John Dornan, Master Nathan Arthur, and Mr. Gus Oxley; Mesdames Eva Macdonald, Madge Lucas, Rosemary Faire, Kitty Creasy, Ella Wynne, Lola Waffington, Elsie Piddock, Eva Wray, Aline Heron, Marion Keeley, E. Williams, Vera St. Clair, Gwenda Calvert, and Miss Ethel Waldie. A complete performance is given (twice nightly), with matinée on Saturday, 2.30.

PRINCE OF WALES' PALACE.—M., Mr. R. A. Atkinson.—This week: The Sisters Bartholomew; Eddie Comet, comedian and raconteur; and pictures. Continuous performance with matinée on Saturdays, at 2.30.

ELECTRIC THEATRE. — G. M., Mr. G. F. Allen.—This week, Dowland and Joy, burlesque military comedians; and Bertha May, ballad vocalist.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Robert Arthur Theatres, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Howard Finney; Mus. D., Mr. John Armstrong.—The attractions of "Cinderella" augment week by week, the new songs and special comic business being greatly appreciated. Mr. Malcolm Scott is a tower of strength in the humorous department, and is assiduously helped by Mr. Barney Armstrong, Kelly, Mr. Rowland Green, and the Bains troupe of acrobats and fun-makers. Miss Edna Morgan (the Prince) and Miss Daisy Bray (Cinderella) gain fresh laurels nightly. The Misses Vesta and Minnie Pine, as the Proud Sisters, Miss Georgina Fischer (Flora), Miss Kathleen Bennott (Moonbeam), and the Misses Norah and Edith Kebble are bright and vivacious in all their movements.

GRAND THEATRE.—M., Mr. Frank Seabrook; Mus. D., Mr. Sydney Twinn.—Mr. G. N. Ballanger's company is here in the American romance, "The Round-Up." Mr. Ray Raymond brings out with natural force and interest the fine personality of the manly sheriff, Arizona Dan. The warm-hearted Topas Carson is capitally impersonated by Mr. Alfred Parker, while Mr. Charles Levey plays the strenuous rôle of Colonel Redmond with undoubted ability. The knavish tricks of Geoffrey Lawson bring out the capabilities of Mr. Alfred Grenville, who receives valuable help from Mr. F. Holyoake as Bill Clark. Miss Rita Tomkins shows genuine earnestness in her portraiture of Lilian Redmond. Miss Lena Flowerdew makes an excellent Mrs. Wallace, and several enjoyable songs are rendered by Miss Mercia Russell, Miss Edith Giddens, and Mr. Alfred Lafolle.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Ernest Bridgen; Mus. D., Mr. W. L. Richards.—George Lashwood, smart and debonair as ever, contributes several new features, including the inevitable rag-time song. A dainty and expert exhibition of dancing is given by Williams and Segal, who strike a real note of artistry. The neat and dexterous juggling of Walter Bellonini is a big source of enjoyment. Mlle. Golda's delightful vocalism makes a complete capture of her audience, and the humour of Will H Fox finds its outlet in excellent trick playing on the piano. Uproarious fun emanates from the Donaldson Bros. in their merry antics. Hayden's morionettes call forth hearty and appreciative applause. Edith Fink, comedienne, and Nora Emerald, comedienne, display ability and vivacity.

HIPPODROME.—P., Nottingham Hippodrome, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Albert C. Duncan; Asst. M., Mr. Stanhope Butler, jun.; Mus. D., Mr. John Holman.—The visit of Joe Peterman and his company in "Seaside Review" is drawing full houses. In a thrilling act, Miss Aurora introduces her pet lion, horse, and dog. The clever acrobatic feats of the Ben Medani Arabs culminate in a scene of mad whirling and excitement that raises a furore of applause. Victorine and Manelli give a notable example of vocal and instrumental music. May and Cissie, wooden shoe dancers; Cling and Clancy, comedians and dancers; Alice Craven, a Lancashire comedienne; and Mart and Pep, hand balancers, contribute to the evening's enjoyment.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—This week, Mr. Joe Redfern's company in "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Florence Millington, Miss Val Gerald, Miss Ada Bellfield, Miss Vanda Rees, Miss Kitty Marston, Miss Alice Bellfield, Mr. Jack Murray, Miss Marion Holly, Mr. Will Charlton, Mr. Harold Carlyle, Mr. George Houghton, Mr. Walter Amner, Mr. Willie Westwood, Harry Frith's Eight Dainty Maids.

VINT'S PICTUREDROME.—L., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. J. J. Kelly. This week: Denaro Brothers., R. C. Note, Kathleen O'Hanlon Trio, and pictures.

OLDHAM.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. H. Kilrow; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. H. Halkyard.—This week: Messrs. F. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath present "Miss Hook of Holland." The company includes: Mr. Fred J. Little, Messrs George F. Ide, Sen Holloway, James Davis, Oliver Comber, A. W. Bartlett, A. Budd, F. Roma. William Nixon, John Gerant, the Misses May Moffatt, Peggy Le Hay, Kathleen Goslett, Dorothy Maude, Helene Moore, and Dorothy Temple. Next week: "The Gay Lord Quex."

ROYAL THEATRE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. J. Hulme.—This week: Arthur Hinton and Leila Zillwood's company in "Allah's Orchard." The company includes: Messrs. Arthur Hinton, Herbert Evelyn, Frank McClellan, Arthur Keand, Alfred G. Raymond, Leonard Gardiner, Mark Adams; the Misses Ethel Monton, Pauline Haydon, Annette Howard, Maimie West, Paula Dene, Kitty Thornton, Rose Kocher, Norma Craig, Violet Hebditch, Dolly Wall, F. Smith, Molly Ward, Isa Clark, Esma Gorton, Nellie Davis, May Wright, Jean Marsden, and Florence Zillwood. Matinée, Tuesday, 2.15. Next week: "A Lad's Love."

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. E. Sharrocks; Mus. D., Mr. Harry O'Callaghan.—This week: "The Burglars of New York," by Alex Piccad's company; the Dorinos, in dancing act; the Paulhan team on bicycles; Frederica's terriers; Vi Tonica, lady whistler; Stoddard and Hynes, in comedy musical act; Rosie Raven, comedienne and dancer; Jack Shires, comedian; and pictures.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—P., The Dobie Electric Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. W. Dobie.—This week: Capt. Permane's pony and Teddy bears; the Heywood Trio, musical entertainers; the Claymore Trio, vocalists, dancers, and jugglers; T. W. Barrett; and pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. C. Gaston.—This week: Mr. Charles Gaston, in illustrated song-scena; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatres of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. F. Dixon.—This week: Fred Dixon, comedian; and pictures.

OXFORD.

PALACE.—P., Messrs. G. Leyton and H. L. Seddon; M., Mr. P. Leonard.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Arthur Watson, in "The Cruise of H.M.S. Victory"; Mr. Jack Francis; Miss Rosie de Waldon; the Sisters Day; Clifton St. Clair; Miss Ethel Barton's Eight Orchards; and pictures.

PAISLEY.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; A. M., Mr. Jack R. Bostock; Mus. D., Mr. Thomas Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): Caryl Wilbur, the American actor, in the comedy, "61, Prospect-street"; Katie Sandwina, the lady Hercules; Lane and Dale, American eccentrics on unicycles and bicycles; the Two Styles, singing comedians; Harry Knox, eccentric comedian; Fields and Fields, in a comedy singing act; Herd and Gard, grotesque musical comedians; and pictures.

PEMBROKE DOCK.

WHITE'S PICTURE PALACE, QUEEN-STREET.—M., Mr. Alf. Shirley.—This week: Mlle. Leo and Poso, introducing their human crocodile scene, etc.; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

PENTRE.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. W. E. Willis; R. M., Mr. James Gunn.—This week: Mr. Marcus Draper and company in "The Christian." The cast includes: Messrs. Marcus Draper, R. Campbell Fletcher, Edward Watson, Albert Clarke, Alec Forbes, Charles Langton, E. Hutter, Norman Purnell, Charles Harris, Sidney Silvester, the Misses Barbara Wallace, Pearl Ray Ivy Clarke, May Harris, Nellie Murray, Winifred Peters, and Mary Bronton. Next week: "The Gay Gordons" and "Dairymaids."

WORKMEN'S HALL.—M., Mr. H. Salway; Mus. D., Mr. Joe Leslie.—This week (twice nightly): Norman Aveling and company in tabloid drama, "Out on Licence"; the Donatos, comedy monopedes; and pictures. Matinée Wednesday, 11 a.m.

PERTH.

PERTH THEATRE.—M., Mr. J. H. Savile; R. M., Mr. Chas. Boult.—This week (for six nights and a matinée): The pantomime, "Aladdin," which was presented by Mr. C. Adolf Seebold and Mr. Matt. Melrose. The company includes: Miss Lalli Melrose, Miss Rita Bechstein, Miss Nina Bechstein, Miss Rene Ashley, Mr. Fisher Jones, Mr. Tom Maynard, Mr. S. Conway, and Mr. M. Melrose. Next week: "The Girl in the Picture."

PETERBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Lieut.-Col. J. A. Winstanley; M., Mr. A. Lake-Fry.—This week: Mr. Geo. Dance's company in "The Quaker Girl." The company includes: Mr. Jack Gray, Mr. Ken Worth, Mr. Robert Dunn, Mr. Charles Cautley, Mr. Monti Macdonald, Mr. James Hughes, Mr. Nelson White, Mr. R. Gladstone, Mr. Louis Wigley, Miss Rita Everard, Miss Vivienne Gower, Miss Violet Willard, Miss Elsie Skillings, Miss Doris Gray, Miss Rosalie Payne, and Miss Elfie Vincent. Full chorus under the direction of Mr. Ernest Wolfe.

HIPPODROME.—L., Messrs. Hawkins and Frank.—This week: The Three Colquhouns, in "A Minstrel's Rehearsal"; Le Delbosque, international dancer; Claude Addison, baritone vocalist; the Two Lillies, with their mirror illusion; Chas. Grattan, comedian; Ryan and Hall, burlesque acrobatic comedians; and pictures.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—D., Mr. J. M. Glover; A. M., Mr. Allan Attwater.—This week: "Jack and Jill." The company includes: Miss Connie Emerald, Miss Daisy West-Collins, Mr. Walter Dowling, Mr. Bert Monks, Miss Rosalind Chard, Mr. Ernest French, the Sisters Holman, Miss Winsome Drummond, Mr. F. Le Maitre, Mr. A. H. Reid, Miss Margaret Lynhart, Miss Evelyn Tyser, Mr. Sam Leo, and specialities by the Creo Brothers.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. and M., Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Roxbury's pantomime, "Mother Goose." The company includes: Frank H. Morton, Zeta Murdoch, Kitty Russell, Cissie Esdaile, Rosa Bartlett, Irene Millard, Fred Acton, the Lemairs, F. Robinson, Day and Deen, Madeline Dore, Nellie Tomlinson, M. Douglas, Violet Brown, J. W. Gallagher, and Walter Dale. Specialities by Day and Deen, the Lemairs, Sydney T. Russell's Eight Sydney Girls. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole L. & M., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. G. F. Thompson.—The Six American Rag-timers, in their specialities, "Rag-time Cowboy Joe" and "The Texas Tommy dancers"; Will Last, comedian; Pete and Juno, comedians and dancers; Ida Re'Vell, versatile chorus comedienne; the Mannigoes, in a sensational equilibristic performance; Stalman and Russel, in a comedy sketch, "Borrowed Money"; Adams and Ward, comedy acrobatic eccentrics; and Fred Colley and Minnie Scott, in comedy tit-bits. Next week: Miss Vesta Tilley and star company.

PONTARDAWE.

PAVILION.—P., Mr. William Coutts; G. M., Mr. Hal Cummings; M., Mr. Wilson Benge.—This week (first three nights): "Geoffrey Langdon's Wife." The company includes: Percy Brown, Claude Graveley, Edward Franks, Cyril Grier, Cliff Deane, Sid Hobson, Arthur Lowry, George Morton, Anna Corrie, Vida Haslewood, Kathleen Magee. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, "The Vacant Chair." The company includes: Percy Brown, Cyril Grier, Claude Graveley, Arthur Lowry, Cliff Deane, Sid Hobson, George Kendal, Fred English, T. W. Page, George Morton, Frank Harden, Vida Haslewood, Kathleen Magee.

PONTEFRACT.

ALEXANDRA.—L., Mr. George Tankard.—This week (once nightly): Mr. T. Edward Ward's company in "The Slave Girl." The company includes: S. Elwyn-Leslie, Fred Rivers, Chris Ware, Harnold Allen, Tom May, Victor Cannon, Yankee Weston, Chas. Ryde, Louie King, Lily Snow, Nellie Hayes, Effie Macintosh, Lizzie Chambers, Gem Lloyd, and Miss Ward. A. M., Mr. S. Elwyn-Leslie.

PONTYPRIDD.

NEW THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; M., Mr. Charles Trenchard. — This week: Mr. T. Edward Ward's company in "A Lad's Love." The company includes: Miss Lilian Earle, Mr. Henry Hallatt, Mr. John Blake, Mr. Alec Wilson-Wynne, Mr. Percy Shaw, Mr. F. Thorpe-Tracey, Mr. Percy Godfrey, Miss Irene Stanhope, and Miss Violette May.

WHITE PALACE.—P., The White Palaces, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Albert R. Josty.—This week: Mr. David Phillips, baritone vocalist; and pictures.

LESSER TOWN HALL.—P., Mr. John G. Wood; R. M., Mr. Mason.—This week: Miss Cicely Elliott, comedienne and dancer; and pictures.

PORTH.

PALACE THEATRE.—L., Mr. Will Smithson; M., Mr. J. W. Bynorth; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Stephens.—This week: Mr. Harold Wagner and Miss Ada Tilley's company in "A Trip to Chinatown." The company includes: Mr. Almertane, Ed. De Vere, Fred Lytton, Jack Hillier, Evelyn Prichard, Sybil Mudie, and Miss Ada Tilley.

PORTSMOUTH.

ROYAL.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—A crowded house welcomed Mr. George Edwardes' company, who began a fortnight's engagement on Monday with "Gipsy Love." The piece was staged in the usual lavish way associated with Mr. Edwardes' productions, and the orchestra was largely augmented under the direction of Mr. Howard Carr. Mr. Peter A. Gawthorne's tall figure, with powerful and melodious voice, contributed largely to his success as Jozsi, the gipsy musician. Mr. Norman Greene's fine baritone voice was heard to great advantage as the innkeeper, Andor, Mr. James Kirk impersonating Jonel. Mr. Lionel Victor received an enthusiastic reception, his natural droll and quaint humour making his part, Dragotin, one of the evening's successes, his topical song, "Home again," evoking repeated encores. Mr. Louis Bradfield, jun., with quiet humour, was an effective Kajetan. Miss Mary Ridley, with tall and graceful figure and of pleasant voice, was excellent as Lady Babby; Miss Maggie Jarvis, as Ilona, has a sweet and expressive voice. A piquant and vivacious Jolan was seen in Miss Connie St. Clair; Miss Violet Vivian suitably playing the Nurse Julesa; Miss Mabel Hirst did well as the gipsy girl, Yorika; and a pretty Marischka was Miss Maidie Andrews. Special dances by Mlle. Kosza, Miss Connie St. Clair, and Mr. Alfred H. Majilton were warmly applauded. A richly dressed chorus of ladies and gentlemen did full justice to the pretty music. Mr. Percy J. Purdey is the general-manager for Mr. Edwardes.

KING'S.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—A comic operette, "Arms and the Girl," occupies the place of honour, and met with a hearty reception. The company is both a numerous and capable one, and the play particularly well staged. Mr. Fred Conyers impersonated with great success the irate General Sir J. Bywater, his son John being effectively represented by Mr. C. J. Kempster. A charming Elsie Manners is seen in Miss Gracie Sinclair; and a piquant Margaret McCurdie, the winsome parlour maid, was Miss Dulcie Dalmar. The Fuji Family are sensational equilibrists; a boisterous sketch, "The Sporting Widow," is capitally played by Mrs. Royston Dene in the name part, Miss Maisie Rosslyn (Cecilia), Mr. F. Arnold Mussett (Rev. Pillsbury), and Mr. Conn Allister (Humphrey). Rag-time singing has the Three Rascals for exponents; Parisian dancing by Lydia and Amelys won loud applause; Mr. Rossi Ashton does some lightning sketching, accompanied by the orchestra, with his wife in the conductor's seat. Bert Symes, the singing ploughboy, is the possessor of a powerful voice; and pictures complete.

PRINCES.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton.—The glories and thrills of life in the Wild West are again portrayed at the above to crowded audiences in Young Buffalo, "The King of the Wild West." Young Buffalo is the leading performer, supported by Miss Caroline May Blaney, a characteristic girl of the prairie, whose work is fully appreciated. The company is a large one, including a brass band, and the production is eminently interesting and fascinating.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. George Harris.—Magicry and illusion are the principal attractions here, Servais le Roy, Talma and Bosco providing the entertainment. A rich musical treat by Miss Elsie Southgate, the talented violinist, with her sister Dorothy at the Mustel organ, is another great attraction. Real Scotch humour is purveyed by Jock Lorrimer; beautiful singing had its exponent in Signor Torti; conversationalists at cross purposes were heard in Guest and Newlyn; and a funny comedian is Tim Carlisle.

EMPIRE.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; S., Mr. W. Pratt.—Peter Donald and Meta Carson, America's favourite Scotch comedian and his "bonnie lassie," made an entirely successful first appearance on Monday at the above. Everything is rag-time on the halls just now, and Maggie Benson's ditties, especially "The rag-time hop," sends everyone away delighted. Eddie Martyn proved himself a clever exponent of wooden shoe dancing. Buck Baker, the "real cowboy," who is assisted by Miss Minerva Cree and Victor C. Henri, present a touching Western episode, "Pete the Sheriff," which is warmly applauded. Other excellent turns are contributed by the Lauri Brothers, Tom Moore, Kitty Wade, and Dale and O'Malley, the last named extremely mirthful comedians, with up-to-date cross-talk and gag.

CLARENCE PIER.—M. and S., Mr. W. Cuddy.—An excellent programme was submitted at Saturday's concert, when Miss Ada Forrest and Mr. Henry Turnpenny, accompanied by Mr. Percy Ramsey, delightfully rendered several beautiful songs, including "The golden destiny," by Arthur Wingham, of Southsea, the full string band of the R.G.A., under Mr. Chas. Lee, R.A., occupying the orchestra and playing popular selections.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—M., Mr. F. G. Robson.—This week: Skating daily. Sunday, Feb. 2, at 3 and 8: The Royal Garrison Artillery band, conductor, Mr. Charles Lee, R.A.; vocalist, Miss Constance Wentworth, soprano.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. J. Alban Newton. This week: Mr. George Dance's company, in "A Waltz Dream." Matinée, Thursday.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. E. H. Page; R. M., Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson; A. M., Mr. Albert J. Bolton.—This week: Mr. R. Nightingale's company in "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Dolly Ross, Miss Gladys Henderson, Miss May Beaumont, Miss Frances Henderson, Miss Ruth Beaumont, Miss Lillian Devon, Miss Nellie Mascot, Mr. Jimmy Goode, Mr. Bob Stevens, Mr. Billy Fauder, Tew and Lea, Barbendo, the Dancing Durhams, and full chorus. Matinées, Thursday and Saturday.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. M., Mr. Frank E. Burdett; Mus. D., Mr. Robert Peel.—This week: Jennie Johns, comedienne; Will Van Allen, the musical tramp; F. V. St. Clair, in his latest songs; the Gleeson and Houlihan Trio; the Three Safes, comedy gymnasts; Jean Alexandre, mimic; Bradshaw and Brooks, comedy entertainers; Frank Melvin, the quaint Yorkshireman; and pictures. Twice nightly and Monday matinée.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Edwin Bush; G. M., Mr. Alan W. Young; Mus. D., Mr. J. L. Dexter.—This week: Terry and Lambert, impers

THEATRICAL LAW.

MISS LENA ASHWELL AND A FLORIST.

Mrs. Lena Simson, professionally known as Miss Lena Ashwell, the popular actress, of Grosvenor-street, S.W., was defendant in an action heard on Wednesday before Deputy Judge Sinclair in the Westminster County Court. The plaintiff was Mr. Hugo Froreich, described as a Court florist, carrying on business in New Bond-street, who claimed £1 14s., balance of an account for plants supplied.

Mr. Clifford Penny (instructed by Mr. W. H. V. Young) was counsel for the plaintiff, and Mr. Alfred Bucknell (instructed by Messrs. Langton and Passmore) represented the defendant.

Mr. Penny said that in the last week of May, 1912, the plaintiff had a stall at a flower show that was being held at Chelsea, and on the 30th of the month Mrs. Simson, when visiting the show, called at the stall and expressed a wish to purchase a spiral box tree that was on exhibition. She inquired the price, and was told that the one she admired was priced £2 10s., but that it was sold. The attendant, however, pointed out that there was another similar tree, only larger, for sale at 4 guineas, and after inspecting this, the defendant said she would purchase it. She also selected some other plants and tubs, and all were sent to the defendant's house. Later an account was sent in for £6 16s. Mrs. Simson then wrote to the effect that the price agreed upon for the spiral box tree was £2 10s., not 4 guineas. She paid £5 2s. into Court, and the present claim was for the balance alleged to be due.

Mr. Hope, the representative of the plaintiff at the Chelsea show, gave evidence in support of counsel's statement, and denied ever telling the defendant that the price of the larger tree was £2 10s. He booked the order at the time.

The plaintiff gave similar evidence, and admitted that the defendant asked him if he would not take £2 10s. for the tree to take it back again. He denied that he told Miss Ashwell that if she paid 3 guineas she could keep the tree.

Miss Lena Ashwell, in the witness box, said that when she purchased the spiral tree she took it to be a sample of trees that were being sold, and that the price was £2 10s. She did not know that she was dealing with a London firm at the time. She understood the person in charge to say that he had several trees to sell at the one price, £2 10s., as he did not wish to take them back to Holland. She thought she was buying a tree similar to the one she was shown, and when the account was sent in, she went to the plaintiff and expressed her surprise. She was quite sure that she never agreed to purchase a tree for 4 guineas, and two ladies who were with her would corroborate this.

In cross-examination Miss Ashwell was asked: "Why did you not have the four-guinea tree?"

Miss Ashwell: Because I am not very rich.

Two ladies who were with Miss Ashwell at the time she purchased the tree having given evidence bearing out her statement, His Honour gave judgment for the defendant, with costs.

"EAST LYNNE" LITIGATION.

Mr. J. Pitt Hardacre, proprietor of a travelling theatrical company, and the owner of the acting rights of the Bullock version of "East Lynne," brought an action in the King's Bench on Wednesday against Mr. George Gude, proprietor of the New Theatre at Maidenhead, to recover damages for an alleged breach of contract. The defendant denied the breach of contract.

Mr. J. B. Matthews and Mr. Rayner Goddard (instructed by Mr. J. H. Cooper) appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. G. A. Scott (instructed by Mr. Philip J. Rutland) for the defendant.

Mr. Matthews, in opening the case for the plaintiff, said that on Jan. 16, 1912, his client entered into a contract with the defendant, who had converted his skating rink into a theatre, to produce his play, "East Lynne," at the theatre on Jan. 25, 26, and 27. The plaintiff was to receive 60 per cent. of the takings, and the defendant 40 per cent. The defendant had to provide the theatre, limelight, and certain men, and to have 500 pictorial posters displayed in the district.

In dry weather Maidenhead was on the Thames, but in wet weather the Thames was on Maidenhead (laughter). When the plaintiff reached Maidenhead he found that the Thames was in flood, that the ordinary access to the theatre had been cut off, and that the only access to it was across a narrow gangway of planks about 80ft. in length, which was lighted by one electric light. The gangway was only two planks in width, and, therefore, those who went to the theatre had to walk the plank (laughter). The plaintiff drew attention to the condition of the gangway, and the defendant's manager promised that by the evening a proper and efficient mode of access would be provided. This was not done, and the plaintiff obtained permission for the public who desired to attend the performance to pass into the theatre through the yard of an adjoining publichouse. The defendant further failed, said counsel, to supply limelight in accordance with the contract, with the result that the features of the performers could not be distinguished. Many of the pictorial posters had not been displayed, and this no doubt had something to do with the smallness of the attendance. On Jan. 25 the takings amounted to £8 13s., on the 26th £3 16s. 6d., and on the 27th £10.

Mr. Hardacre was called and gave evidence in support of counsel's statement. He added that the two planks over which the public were expected to walk were each about nine inches wide. Only a monkey or a boy would walk over such a gangway.

Mr. Goddard: Did you go over it?—Yes.

Mr. Justice Avory: But you are neither a monkey nor a boy (laughter).

The witness, continuing, said that owing to the failure of the defendant to provide limelight the audience could not see the faces of the actors. He thought the defendant's theatre would hold a £70 audience.

In cross-examination the witness said there was a clause rendering the agreement void on account of any public calamity or from any cause not within the control of the defendant. He denied that the gangway provided by the defendant consisted of three nine-inch planks. It was ridiculous to say that the gangway was lighted by a 1,000-candle power arc light. He had not heard that of the persons who attended the first performance 109 passed over the gangway and 96 through the yard of the adjoining hotel.

Mr. Scott: Do you know that the borough engineer said that owing to the flood he could not risk the lighting of Maidenhead so as to give the necessary limelight?—No. You can have limelight without the electric light.

Mr. Justice Avory: Limelight was known long before the electric light.

Mr. Scott (to the witness): Is "East Lynne" known in the profession as "When in Doubt"?—That is an old expression, "when in doubt play 'East Lynne.'"

Mr. Justice Avory: That may mean you cannot do wrong if you play "East Lynne."

Mr. C. Wood, formerly manager to the defendant, stated that when the plaintiff saw the gangway leading to the theatre he complained that it was not wide enough, and that a handrail should be put up. The witness spoke to the defendant, who said that the gangway would be all right. A man named Stewart was stage-manager, electrician, property man, and stage carpenter.

Mr. Goddard: What did Stewart do in his spare time? — I do not think he had much (laughter).

Who was scenic artist?—He was (laughter).

Mr. Justice Avory: Did he take any part in the band?—No.

Mr. Joe Rowlands, actor, said that he took the part of Police-constable Bullock in "East Lynne." Limelight was necessary for the proper performance of the play. On the first night the piece was produced he went to the front to see how the performance looked on the stage. Owing to the absence of the limelight the face of one of the actors looked like a cheap plum pudding (laughter).

Other witnesses having given evidence, the case for the plaintiff closed.

Mr. Gude, the defendant, stated that the flood came up on Wednesday night, and he employed a firm to construct a gangway. In some parts, where people might pass each other, the gangway was four planks wide. The gangway was lighted by an electric lamp of upwards of 600 candle power. He had a limelight apparatus, but he could not use it for the plaintiff's performances because the borough electrical manager had informed him that he could not give him the necessary electric light. Stewart was the master carpenter, but not the property man or billposter. It was not true to say he did not have 500 of the pictorial posters displayed in the district. He employed a firm of billposters at Maidenhead to display that number. A full house at the prices charged by the plaintiff would not produce more than £35. The flood cut off the ordinary access to the theatre, and people were not allowed to pass through the yard of the adjoining publichouse without the permission of the proprietor. No person complained to him that the gangway was dangerous.

Cross-examined, the witness denied that Mr. Wood told him that the gangway was unsafe. He should consider that he had a good house if the takings reached £20.

Mr. Christopher O. Milton, borough electrical manager at Maidenhead, stated that owing to the flood he refused to supply the defendant with the electricity necessary to work his lantern for producing limelight effect.

Mr. A. Lensman, builder's foreman, gave evidence to the effect that his employers constructed a gangway leading to the defendant's theatre in January last year. The gangway was three planks wide, and none of the planks used was less than nine inches in width. The gangway was a perfectly safe approach. A regiment of soldiers could have marched up it two abreast.

George Stewart, who said that he was now stage carpenter at the Camberwell Empire, deposed that he was the stage carpenter at Maidenhead when "East Lynne" was being performed by the plaintiff's company. The witness spoke to his various duties, and said that "a stage carpenter had to be a universal genius, and do everything and everybody" (laughter).

After other evidence Mr. Scott addressed the jury for the defence, and the hearing was adjourned till Thursday, when the jury found that there had been only a breach of the agreement in respect of the failure to supply limelight.

Judgment was accordingly entered for plaintiff for £5.

The First Division Judges of the Glasgow Court of Session disposed on Monday of an action by John Pitt Hardacre, of Staines, Surrey, against Richard Waldon, Royal Princess's Theatre, Glasgow, to have the respondent interdicted from producing a version of "East Lynne," known as the "Bullock" version, on the ground that the complainer was the proprietor of the copyright of the drama.

The respondent pleaded that in no fair sense was his drama a copy or a colourable imitation of that of the complainer, and that he had no intention of encroaching upon the complainer's rights or of adopting anything from his special form of the drama.

Lord Guthrie, who heard the proof, found for defender, and refused interdict.

The Lord President held complainer's case failed even before they reached Lord Guthrie's judgment, because he had given them no material on which they could decide the question at issue.

NOT A PIERROT.

In the King's Bench Division on Thursday before Mr. Justice Bucknill it was stated that a settlement had been arrived at in the case of Sheriff-Clunes v. Associated Newspapers (Ltd.), which was an action for alleged libel. The plaintiff was one of two co-respondents in a husband's suit for the dissolution of his marriage. The case was heard last July, and after a three days' trial the jury acquitted both co-respondents of the charge of misconduct. The husband's suit was dismissed and a decree of restitution of conjugal rights was granted to the wife on her counter petition. In the course of the trial reference was made to certain Chancery proceedings between husband and wife concerning the custody of the child of the marriage, and there was an affidavit filed on behalf of the husband, which stated that plaintiff in the action for alleged libel was a pierrot. Some observation was made by the judge upon the impropriety of an acquaintance between the wife and a pierrot. The statement, however, was untrue, and the deponent to the affidavit, a woman, when called as a witness, said she knew nothing about plaintiff. The "Evening News" described the suit as a "Pierrot Divorce Case." Counsel said the statement that plaintiff was a pierrot was without foundation. He was an actor of standing in the provinces, playing leading parts, and was connected with a well-known and respected family. Counsel said he understood plaintiff's grandfather was formerly M.P. for the City of Worcester. Plaintiff had been exposed to ridicule by the statement, and he brought an action against defendants, who did not seek to suggest there was any truth in the statement. It was now agreed that plaintiff should be indemnified against costs and that a reasonable sum should be paid to him by way of damages.

Mr. Stuart Bevan expressed regret on behalf of defendants that plaintiff had been referred to in the terms complained of. Defendants accepted the statement that plaintiff was a provincial actor of standing. It was only fair to defendants to say that petitioner in his evidence described plaintiff as a pierrot, and thus the trouble arose. The reporter adopted the description given of plaintiff, and it was carried through the trial from day to day. Counsel said defendants agreed to the terms arranged and the withdrawal of the record.

The Besses o' th' Barn band paid a flying visit to Greenock on Thursday, 22nd, and gave two performances in the Town Hall. The programmes submitted were of exceptional merit, and the artistic playing of the famous band was greatly appreciated by enthusiastic audiences.

The gala performance at the Berlin Opera in honour of the Kaiser's birthday on Monday was almost prevented by the obstinacy of a Berlin policeman. He had been put to watch the stage door, and on the arrival of Frau Poppe, a popular actress, who was to take a leading part in the performance, he refused her admission. The actress protested in vain, and eventually an aide-de-camp of the Emperor was sent to make inquiries about the delay, and released the lady from her embarrassing position.

OUR AMATEURS.

A good company of players got together in the cause of charity gave very interesting performances of "Hamlet" at the Court Theatre on Jan. 28 and 29 in aid of the funds of the Universal Beneficent Society. The production was under the direction of Messrs. P. L. Eyre and Frank Holden, and the absence of scenery and all but the most necessary furniture did not detract from the interest of this always arresting and splendidly constructed play. Mr. P. L. Eyre, with a personality suggestive of Philip John Kemble, gave a very intelligent and dignified reading of the character of Hamlet, and rose at times to considerable emotional heights. Miss Muriel Dole was a queenly Gertrude, and sustained a rather ungracious part very acceptably. Mrs. Ralph Grenside marred her conception of the gentle Ophelia by mannerisms of bodily and facial action which she should overcome, but she was excellent in the pathetic mad scene. Other notable impersonations in a long cast were the vigorous and tedious Polonius of Mr. J. K. Boddy; the genial Claudius of Mr. Frank Holden; the manly Laertes of Mr. Owen Price Edwards, and the clever assumption of the small part of the "water-fly," Osric, by Mr. Dudley Summerhays. The curtailment of some of the scenes and the omission of that of the "Graveyard" brought the play within reasonable time limits.

The gentle art of "Molluscry" had a charming exponent in Miss Alys Potter at the Sheridan D.C.'s performance of Mr. H. H. Davies' comedy at the Cripplegate Theatre on Jan. 29. Her exposition of masterly inactivity would be difficult to better, and made the willing slavery of her household comprehensible, for we hold that the "mollusc" germ, dormant in most of us in greater or lesser degree, often owes its nurture and development to the unselfish devotion of those around us. Mr. T. H. Spragg was good in the part of the good-natured, puzzled husband, though not always able to resist coming "out of the picture" to smile at the humour of his own situation. Mr. F. Vernon Colson, as the hearty and honest "anti-mollusc" from Colorado, spoilt an otherwise good and consistent piece of acting by want of knowledge of some of his lines, and Miss Barbara Cotterell was quietly good as the indispensable governess, Miss Roberts. The comedy was preceded by the little duologue, "Collaborators," by Miss Daisy McGeogh, in which Miss Mary Cotterell acted easily and naturally as the would-be dramatist, Mabel, though Mr. Herbert H. Harmer might have made a little more of his opportunities in the part of her collaborator, Reginald. Mr. Karoly Klay's band gave a good selection of bright music during the evening.

A crowded audience, who laughed sometimes in the wrong place at the pathos of the kitchen-maid, in "Between the Soup and the Savoury," had quite legitimate excuse for their mirth in the humours of Mr. B. Macdonald Hastings' comedy, "Love, and What Then?" given for the first time by amateurs by the Cripplegate Club at the Cripplegate Theatre on Jan. 25. The piece had been excellently rehearsed, and went with a swing. Mr. Arthur C. Chapman's delightful—and, we hope, not quite impossible—Bishop of Munbridge escaped being a slavish imitation of the recent creator of the character, and Mr. James McGowan's admirable gravity as his secretary, Rumsey, who "finds himself" on a point of cricket, was consistently maintained. Mr. W. J. Latham was inclined to over-emphasise the "woodenness" of the Rev. John Burden. Miss Monica Thorne looked very charming, and developed a delightful sense of comedy as Beryl Burden, and Miss Louise Forge impersonated an ideal mother-in-law with sincerity and insight. As the frolicsome "flappers," Sheila and Olive Morris, and their light-hearted aiders and abettors, Ian Lindsay and Jack Garth, Misses Lilian Cooper and Nellie Innes, and Messrs. N. Galloway and S. Hopper were very happily cast, and worked brightly together. Mr. L. D. Strong was fairly convincing in the small part of Lieut. Frank Etteridge, and Miss Olive Lonsdale completed the cast as a parlourmaid. In the now familiar little comedy which preceded the play, Miss Frances Jolly, Miss Eva Gold, and Miss Mary Henderson sustained their parts well as the sympathetic cook, the pert parlourmaid, and the lovesick kitchenmaid, Emily.

The Ashley Dramatic Club contributed, in the shape of a triple bill, part of the entertainment of the meeting of the Putney and Roehampton Habitation of the Primrose League at the Wandsworth Town Hall on Jan. 23. Speeches of a very "primrose" hue by Councillor A. Cooper Rawson and Mr. Edwin Evans completing the programme. In "The Burglar and the Judge," by Phillips and Brookfield, Mr. Stanley P. Tucker was good as the hard-hearted judge, who is made to dance to the burglar's tune, and Mr. Fred Coverdale was excellent at the burglar. Mr. Frederick Fenn's one-act comedy, "The Nelson Touch," afforded Mr. Coverdale an opportunity for a study in contrasts by his impersonation of the pale, cold, and stiff Lord Nelson. Mr. W. T. Heagerty (the efficient valet of the first piece) was a dandified Lieutenant Quilliam, and Miss Nellie Bromfield, as a pretty "coming on" widow, with Mr. Guy Church as the robust sailor to whom she openly makes love, were each capital in their respective parts. In "Tilda's New Hat," Miss Bromfield was seen again as the rather exuberant cockney heroine; Miss Winifred Kemp afforded a pleasing contrast in the meek Daisy; and Mrs. Bromfield succeeded in realising to the life the down-trodden mother "bossed" by her good-hearted daughter. Mr. R. H. Shelton did not sufficiently lose his own identity, and was almost too "superior" as the superior bill printer, Walter. All three plays were ably produced by Mr. Rupert M. Heath.

The Finchley A.D.S. presented a complementary dual bill at the Woodside Hall, N. Finchley, on Jan. 25, 27, and 28, the feminine characters predominating in the one-act play "'Op-o'-me-Thumb," while 12 of the 15 members of the cast of "His Excellency the Governor" were men. In the little curtain-raiser the parts were excellently cast and staged, and the imagination stimulated by the realistic "make-up" of all concerned. Mr. Sydney Comber, as the imaginative little waif, Amanda, carried the sympathies of the audience with her. Mrs. Dick Lowcock was very much in the picture as the slatternly Mrs. Clem Galloway, and Miss Elsie McNaught and Miss Janet Carne acted smartly as the pert laundry hands, Celeste and Rose, their "principal," Mme. Didier, being made sufficiently French by Miss E. F. Tunnicliffe. Mr. Charles Slocombe contrived to hold his own, and was natural and human as Horace Greensmith. In the farcical comedy which followed, the strength of the cast was not on the distaff side, Miss Winifred Reynolds showed signs of inexperience as Ethel Carlton, and Miss G. W. Michelsen's commendable efforts at distinctness in the part of Stella resulted in a too uniform loudness of tone and slowness of diction. Mrs. John Dore was dignified and graceful as Mrs. Wentworth Bolling broke. Mr. R. E. Thornley gave a crisp and alert impersonation of His Excellency the Governor, and Mr. R. P. Jenkins' portentous gravity as his secretary, Baverstock, was particularly humorous in the second act. Mr. H. Harben was diplomatically amorous as the Rt. Hon. Henry Carlton, Mr. W. Blake Odgers, jun., was smart and soldierly as the A.D.C. Captain Carew, and Mr. G. F. H. Wraight as the wounded Captain Rivers, and Mr. W. J. Andrews as Major Kildare gave a touch of tragedy to the piece. The humours of the comedy, which was produced by Mr. Harold Sutton, were much enjoyed by the large audience.

Mr. John Hyman, the well-known Costumier, of 29, Leicester-square, has been very busy this past week in providing costumes, wigs, &c., for Amateur Societies and private clients; and amongst others, Mr. Hyman has supplied the Primrose League, Acton ("Dandy Dick"), the Evesham Amateur Operatic Society ("Rip Van Winkle"), the Studley Amateur Operatic Society ("Mikado"), the Balham Amateur Operatic Society ("Dorothy"), the Cricklewood Amateur Operatic Society ("Mikado"), the Harrow Amateur Operatic Society (Elizabethan Costume play), the Peterborough Amateur Operatic Society ("Monsieur Beaucaire"), the Hendon Amateurs, and the costumes, wigs, &c., for "The Rose and the Ring," at Whitby, Yorks.

"The Education of Elizabeth" was chosen by the Ingoldsby Club for their 207th private performance, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, on Jan. 29, and Mr. Roy Horniman's amusing comedy received more than adequate representation at the hands of these experienced amateur players. Chief honours go to Miss Cecily Dale and Mr. Harry Gebbett, who took full advantage of the opportunities for humorous treatment in their parts of the good-hearted chorus girl, Blanche, and the brainless dude, Reggie, who marries and admires her as "one of the best." Their scene in the Paris hotel with Mr. H. Mervyn Jones as a gendarme was one of the best of the evening. Mr. M. McKay seemed not quite well suited with the part of Harry Fairfax, but Mr. Clement Pink made all his pungent points as the cynical and always hungry Mr. Whitby. Miss Margaret Lynebery played with restraint as Elizabeth, and Miss Myra Heslop as Lily Kerr was a good example of a certain type of member of the musical comedy chorus, Miss Daisie Coombs providing a foil in the part of the quiet, self-possessed sister of Harry Fairfax. The play was produced by Mr J. H. Fleetwood.

On Jan. 30 and 31 a company of amateurs, recruited principally, we understand, from the ranks of the Windsor Strollers, gave performances of "Leah Kleschna" at the Court Theatre in aid of the funds of the church of St. Ethelburga, Bishopsgate. The acting was in all cases adequate, and in many reached a high standard of excellence. Mrs. Charles Crutchley proved herself again to be an emotional actress of considerable power, who, nevertheless, knows the value of restraint. Mr. Ralph Alderson as Kleschna and Mr. Percy Lee as Raoul Berton shared chief honours for excellent impersonations respectively of the man of some fine impulses, but wrong ideas of *meum* and *tuum*, and of the degenerate son of the General without self-control or self-respect. The Hon. Stephen Powys contrived to make Paul Sylvaine earnest and convincing, and escaped the pitfall of priggishness. Captain A. F. Liddell was good as General Berton, and it was not Mr. Archibald J. C. Browne's fault, we imagine, that, as Valentin, his English was the only "broken" specimen amongst the company. Mrs. William Murray, Miss Aline Cholmeley, and Mrs. Alexander Alston were equal to the demands made upon them by the parts of Madame Berton and her daughter Claire, and of the grisette, Sophie; and Mrs. Athol Stewart made her mark in her short appearance as the peasant, Charlotte. The country dance in the Epilogue was well arranged, and was given with spirit to Mr. Michael Faraday's music. The whole performance went with a smoothness and finish which reflects credit on the producer, Mr. Leonard Graves. The music was under the direction of Lady Jeane Pleydell Bouverie.

In the Provinces.

At the Alexandra Hall, Ilfracombe, on the 21st, a company of local amateurs gave an excellent rendering of Sardou's "Diplomacy," in aid of the Funds of the Boys' Institute. A record house resulted, no doubt from the fact that Mr. Victor Gardom, the well-known actor, had professionally coached the company, and was stage-managing and producing the piece in addition to sustaining the rôle of Henry Beauclerc. Seldom has Mr. Gardom appeared on the local stage in a part more suited to his clever personality, the polished diplomat living before the eyes of the audience. Every gesture was artistic, every line uttered with a perfection of elocution that won the heartiest of plaudits from his hearers. Great credit must also be accorded to Mr. Gardom for the excellent work he obtained from his colleagues, especially from Mrs. Nicholson, who displayed unusual histrionic ability in her impersonation of the adventuress, Countess Zicka, her "bluffed" confession in the last act well meriting the call she received. As Julian Beauclerc, Mr. Travers Cooke was extremely good, very adequate support being given him by the Dora of Miss Dorothy Wise. Miss A. Dickinson made quite an effective appearance as the Marquise de Rio Zarès, and Miss Lucy Giles was a vivacious Lady Henry Fairfax. Mr. E. P. Le Quesne, as Count Orloff, made the most of his big chance in the famous "three men" scene, when a triumph was scored by the trio concerned. Baron Stein was capitally played by Mr. J. R. Braddick, and Mr. Gardom had been particularly careful to have all the minor characters carefully filled in by word-perfect actors, the chief of which was Mr. H. Mitchell, as Algie Fairfax, breezy and ingenuous. The stage setting proved of the best, and the entire performance evoked great enthusiasm from all present.

This week the Hinckley Amateur Operatic Society, under the conductorship of Mr. C. A. Whatmore, are occupying the boards at the Pavilion, Hinckley, presenting "The Yeomen of the Guard," by permission of Mrs. D'Oyly Carte. The piece is well staged, and the acting of the principals is of a high order. Mr. A. D. Orchard as Col. Fairfax plays his part in a manner that is greatly appreciative to his audience. Mr. H. P. Atkins makes a capital Wilfred Shadbolt, while the rôle of Sir Richard Cholmondeley is in the safe hands of Mr. A. S. Atkins. Mr. Alf. Pearce as Sergt. Meryll was excellent, while Miss Elsie Fleming as Phœbe (his daughter) is seen to much advantage. Jack Point, as played by Mr. E. H. Crump created much merriment, and Elsie Maynard was attractively enacted by Miss Hattie Fleming, her singing and acting being very praiseworthy. The dresses were pretty, and the choruses all well sung.

The Whados Amateur Opera Company are performing this week at the Ipswich Hippodrome (six nights and matinée) Messager's comic opera of "Veronique," giving an all-round excellent show. Miss Maud Orton, in the title-rôle, sings and acts charmingly. She has a rich soprano voice, well trained, and in good control. Miss Olga Lebeda as Agatha (Mme. Coquinard) is also worthy of equal praise. As Denise Miss May Rogers was well received, her dancing in the second act being particularly graceful, and Miss Lilian Nash as Ermerance gives good promise when her nervousness (consequent upon a first night probably) wears off. Miss Edith Arnold did well with the small part of Aunt Benoit. As Mons. Coquinard Mr. Cyril L. Cullingford—an excellent actor, if he would restrain himself—was too boisterous; nevertheless, he was deservedly popular. Mr. Malcolm Long, as Florestan, did his best with a voice which is not powerful. He should take some lessons in elocution. The same may be said of Mr. Harry Knights as Mons. Loustot, the Bailiff, his acting was excellent but his speaking indistinct and too rapid. The minor parts were well filled, and each one did their best. The chorus had been well trained, and reflected great credit upon Mr. Horace Carter, the conductor, and Mr. Frank Smith deserves the highest praise for his excellent grouping and general stage effects. The scenery was supplied by Messrs. Robinson and Co., of Liverpool, and the costumes by Messrs. B. I. Simmons and Co., of Covent Garden.

At Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, during the present week the Lyric Operatic Society gave an excellent presentation of "The Girl Behind the Counter," which was accounted the best thing the society had done during its fifteen years' existence. Mr. S. A. Westerton gave great satisfaction as the humorous General Willoughby; Mr. Colin Raynor made the most of Charlie Chetwynd; Mrs. Arthur Westerton did well as the General's wife; as the French manageress, Ninette, Miss Jessie Adams was charming; Mr. O'Donnell presented Viscount Gushington in humorous style; Miss Carrie Ward acted and sang as Winnie in excellent manner; and other good supporters were Mr. W. E. Backhouse (M. Duval), Mrs. C. J. Luya (Millie Mostyn), and Mr. Jack Henderson (Adolphus Dudd).

The recently established Urmston and District Operatic Society (Manchester) gave, some time ago, ambitiously enough, several initial performances of "H.M.S. Pinafore," which proved, however, to be well within the range of their vocal and acting abilities. Last week, from Jan. 22 to Jan. 25, inclusive, they went one better by tackling the more difficult and serious opera, "The Yeomen of the Guard," which certainly may be considered a severe test for amateurs. There is, however, so much good material in the composition of this enterprising operatic society that the task they had undertaken turned out to be a very satisfactory entertainment for the ample patronage which was assured through the success of their previous effort. Apart from minor weaknesses, mainly connected with the chorus, the performance of the story by the principals may be said to have made a complete success of the production. Popular sympathy has long ago centralised the rôle of Jack Point for special notice, and Mr. R. A. Galloway managed to convey the right touch of sentimental interest along with the studied humour of the character. Another notable figure is the grimly amorous Shadbolt, who found a consistently excellent interpreter in Mr. Stanley Birtwisle, a reliable exponent of character parts, whose big opportunity in the by-play with Phœbe was one of the tit-bits of the production. As Phœbe, Miss Amy Chadwick acted and sang very nicely, and the Elsie Maynard of Mrs. G. B. Broughton was also highly creditable, while Miss D. L. Burgess contributed a capital rendering of Dame Curruthers. The smooth depiction of Fairfax by Mr. T. Grayson was supplemented by the agreeable work of Mr. L. F. Wilson as Sergeant Meryll and Mr. T. C. Martin as the Lieutenant of the Tower. The credit for the production is due to Mr. Stanley Birtwisle.

"THE GOLDEN BELL."

A new musical comedy, by the author of "The Cruise of the Constance" and "The Wager," to say nothing of sundry sketches and dialogues, is quite an event in the county of the Graces and the districts contiguous thereto, and the large and representative audience gathered together at the Watson Memorial Hall, Tewkesbury, on Monday, to see Miss Violet Gibbons' new venture was in no wise disappointed by the capital fare presented. Captain Stacey has in this instance had the help of Mr. Paul Pym in composing the music, and the result is always tuneful and pleasing, as played by an efficient orchestra conducted by the Rev. E. P. Amphlett. "The Golden Bell," aptly described as an Arabian adventure, is quite a spectacular presentation. The Caliph of Baghdad has instituted the feast of the Golden Bell, the day on which he will pass through the city and choose for himself a bride. In the opening scene we hear this announcement made by the herald in the street adjoining the Court of Modan—a charming stage picture. It is the eve of the "Golden Bell," and the street is a panorama of Eastern life, agog with excitement at the coming feast. Razur, in the confidence of the Caliph, is aware that the Caliph, in disguise, is about to leave the palace on a private quest for a suitable damsel, and schemes with Adrana, his sister, a beautiful Arabian, to entrap the amorous Caliph by her blandishments. Fate, however, conspires to outwit them, for the Caliph first meets Zana, a lovely slave, and becomes enamoured of her, blind to the allurements of Adrana and other damsels who get scent of their opportunity. Razur sees a ray of hope in the fact that the Caliph may not espouse a slave. In Act II. we see the maidens busy with their toilet and the procession of the Caliph to his throne—a lavish scene. No dancing or witchery can warm the heart of the monarch until Zana, the slave girl, appears. On her, and no other, will he confer the "Bell." The last bar is removed when Harata, an old woman who has been searching for her, reveals the fact that Zana is not a slave, and the wedding bells ring on a happy termination.

The ambitious Adrana was represented by a gifted young amateur in Miss Dorothie Pidcock, whose efforts never failed to charm; the part of Badoura was played with delightful abandon by the authoress, Miss Gibbons, her rendering of "I love you all" and "I'm Badoura" being rapturously received; Miss Esme Scott was pleasingly natural as Zana, and her song, "O, to be free," was one of the gems of the piece; Mr. R. R. Bowles did good work as the Caliph; Mr. L. P. Gibbons gave an excellent portrayal of the wily Razur; Iam Aswas in the hands of the Rev. C. W. Dixon was a humorous fellow; and the Grand Vizier had a dignified representative in Mr. J. S. Gibbons. The house was unanimous in its verdict of success.

The musical comedy was preceded by a comedietta, by Miss Gibbons, entitled

"THE ERROR OF HIS WAY."

Again Miss Gibbons has given us of her best, the characterisation being excellent. As a curtain-raiser this play will certainly be heard of again. The scene is a charming garden with an effective wall running across at the back. Geraldine Maveson is taking tea in the garden, when her lover, Michael Wynne, and his sister, Mrs. Betty Black, a young widow, after due reconnoitring, come over the garden wall. Geraldine's papa is an anti-marriage crank, at that time in the throes of the preparation of a lecture on his pet subject. He discovers the party in the garden and proceeds to air his views, much to their discomfiture. An invitation to the lecture follows—eagerly accepted by Mrs. Betty Black, who determines to set her cap for the lecturer and overturn his principles. In the meantime Michael and Geraldine decide to elope. Mr. Maveson, overcoming all scruples and remorse, makes love to Betty, and, ashamed to meet his daughter, proposes an elopement. This is overheard by the young lovers, who intrude themselves in time to prevent their departure and pretend to have turned against matrimony as the result of Mr. Maveson's eloquence. After a most amusing scene both eloping parties make a dash for Michael's Panhard, only to find that the chauffeur has eloped with the parlourmaid. Miss Pidcock gave a sparkling reading as Betty; Mr. Bowles skilfully depicted the tender, yet persistent, nature of Michael; Miss Grice-Hutchinson was a very pleasing Geraldine; Mr. J. S. Gibbons came through a trying part with success; and Miss Scott as Ann was excellent.

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THE DEAR OLD "UNITIES."

Sophocles, writes an essayist in the "Christian Science Monitor" (Boston), managed to compress the action of his drama within a day of stage time, kept each fable centred about a single idea, and ingeniously managed to make all the events of each drama occur in a single place. Because he did this, Aristotle in his Poetics laid it down as a rule that all drama should be built on the Sophoclean model. Now although the three unities of time, place and action have been expounded at great length by pedants ever since, only the unity of action has been observed, for that is the only inviolable principle of good drama. There is not room for the complete development of more than one action in a play, and that action developed the play should stop.

Sophocles cast his play in the form he did probably because of the nature of his playhouse, an amphitheatre with temple facade as permanent background. Naturally there could be no illusion of change of scene, so the dramatist invented his fable in a form actable in the single stock scene without change.

Perhaps it was this necessity that led to the convention of approximately unbroken action, for Sophocles was practically required by his acting conditions to deal with effects rather than causes, showing in a couple of hours of intense struggle the piling upon the hero of the consequences of his past life and the execution of the edicts of the deities whom he had offended.

Thus the unities of action and place had a logical foundation, but the unity of time, apart from its chance observance by Sophocles because of the nature of his material, had no sound basis as dogma, even in Greek art. It is by no means certain that Aristotle fixed the time at twenty-four hours, as the passage is equivocal. Euripides, most human of the Greek dramatists, paid no attention to the "laws" of time and place in writing his dramas.

Racine and Voltaire of the classic French period endeavoured to write according to the Aristotle law, and generally succeeded except for the unity of time, against which each solemnly protested in essays and causeries. Racine in one tragedy stretched the period to thirty-six hours.

Yet a number of modern plays, their materials permitting, have obeyed the unities, all three of them. Perhaps the most striking instance is Shaw's "The Doctor's Dilemma," in which the curtain falls only to give the audience a rest now and again, according to the perversely witty author. Similar was the action of "The Servant in the House" by C. Rann Kennedy.

William Gillette's "Secret Service" tells its stirring story in three hours stage time, only fifteen minutes longer than the time actually consumed in performance.

Many of Ibsen's works are compressed as to time because of his custom of writing dramatic epilogues—plays dealing with the effects on the personages of past acts, at the same time ingeniously telling the incidents of the causeful past.

Most plays deal with cause and effect, this being the natural form into which an action falls if it is to be strictly dramatic—that is, they show in action every incident of importance to the understanding of the story, relating nothing important. Epilogue dramas necessarily deal much in narration, except in the hands of the unique, ingenious Ibsen. No one else has been able quite to catch his trick. Sudermann used the whole first act of "Magda" in telling the history of his heroine, bringing her on only at the beginning of the second act.

We like to be shown the cause as well as the effect; hence most of our dramas are made of a first act of cause and two acts of effect. Effects, of course, are the finest materials for art, since an effect appeals to our minds in its double nature—its visible interest and its power to summon up past causes. The greatest modern painters are not those who try to paint light, but those who paint the effects of light.

While the analogy between painting and the drama will not hold to much water, nevertheless it contains a solid fact—that in representing causes by showing effects the dramatist, like the artist, attains a finality of product that gives a solid quality to his work, and makes of his fiction artistic fact.

The unity of place has no logical foundation in modern drama. We can change the scene as often as we like in modern theatres. Indeed, we rather like to have the scene changed when the play is not so absorbing that we resent the waits between acts. "Oh dear, are they going to use the same scenery all through the play?" a young woman exclaimed at a performance of Gillette's "All the Comforts of Home."

Recognising this desire for variety, many playwrights change the action of a play from room to room in the hero's house when there is no reason why the action should not all have been laid in the library. Indeed, many a play has thus been altered by the manager, out of respect for this prejudice of audiences.

There have been daring violations of the unity of time. One of the latest is in a drama now running with success in London, "Milestones," by Bennett and Knoblauch, which shows its characters at intervals of twenty-five years in each of its three acts. Paul Kester's delicate sentimental "Friend Hannah" represented the two central characters at twenty and at seventy. There was twenty years lapse between the first and second acts of Gilbert's "Sweethearts," and between the second and third acts of "Rip Van Winkle." "Old Heidelberg" showed the prince at middle age visiting the scene of his youthful love for Kathie, an innkeper's daughter. Peple's "The Prince Chap" covers the heroine's life so fully that a child and a woman have to act her. These latter-named plays are not quoted as dramatic masterpieces, only as illustrations of the latitude possible to a playwright so long as he is interesting.

Mere observance of the three unities will not result in good and strong drama. On the other hand, there is no denying that when the material falls naturally within Aristotle's formula of the three unities an effect of power and compression is secured which is not approached by plays that often shift the scene or that scatter the interest over a period of years, with their diffusion and alteration of viewpoint. The unities have oftenest been observed in tense emotional dramas, for here the material and the Aristotle machine work nicely together for a single strong effect.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—"Referee," May 15, 1910.

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Miss Kate Hamilton, professionally known as Kitty Murray, recently applied at the London Bankruptcy Court for her discharge, having been adjudged bankrupt last July. She returned her liabilities at £1,066, and nothing has been realised for the creditors. The debtor had stated that at the end of 1910 she acquired for £200 "The Belle of Brittany," but the tour was unsuccessful. She estimated that she had lost about £1,200 in connection with the venture. The discharge was suspended for two years.

MR. HERBERT BARNES.

Mr. Herbert Barnes, who is the musical-director and producer of pantomimes at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, is one of those men who, once met, is never forgotten. He is a Yorkshireman with a striking personality, which he seems to convey into his work.

At the present time Mr. Barnes is very prominent in the theatrical world, particularly where pantomime is concerned. For a number of years he was Mr. Lester Collingwood's right-hand man at the Alexandra Theatre, and now Mr. Leon Salberg, the new proprietor, has found him an invaluable lieutenant.

This year's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," has proved a veritable triumph for Mr. Barnes. It has broken all previous records, and when it is taken into consideration that he also produced "Mother Goose" at the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, the responsibilities he has had are very exceptional. But Mr. Barnes has had a career which fits him well for the duties.

He was born in York and had a first-class musical education at York Minster. Starting in the choir as a probationer at the age of nine years, he was, after a short period, appointed solo boy, and studied counterpoint and harmony under the late Dr. E. G. Monk. One of his colleagues was Mr. York Sheffield, who has since acted as composer of the well-known Shakespearean revivals at Manchester.

Young Barnes set out to be an engineer, but he did not find the work congenial, and he ran away from home and enlisted in the Royal Artillery as a bugler. He went with the regiment to India, and at the various European functions he had charge of the musical element. Returning to England, he went with "Les Cloches de Corneville" as pianist, and later joined Mr. Graham Falcon in "fit-ups." Here he had his first opportunity of displaying his abilities as a musical-director. Mr. Falcon took the Theatre Royal, Ryde, for a summer season, and produced pastoral plays in the lawn-tennis grounds, along with several burlesques, of which Mr. Barnes was the composer. This was in the early nineties, and his next appointment was that of musical-director for "Jack-in-the-Box," for G. R. Sims and Clement Scott. Experience of grand opera followed with Mr. Calder O'Bierne. Here he gained valuable experience, and furthermore, with other "fit-ups," he encountered many vicissitudes which hardened him well to the game. On many occasions he appealed in vain to the treasury, and he had to lend a hand to erecting the buildings, and gas fittings, and other odd jobs, and he also gained a thorough knowledge of stage-craft.

"La Cigale," the comic opera, was the next production with which Mr. Barnes became identified, at the Lyric Theatre, and then he joined Mr. Harry Star with "Carl the Clockmaker," acting as conductor for four years, during which time "Schwank, the Dreamer" (a version of "Rip Van Winkle") was produced, for which he composed the music and arranged the incidental numbers.

Mr. Barnes' clever work brought him under the notice of Mr. Bert Coote, and he undertook three or four tours with "The Fatal Wedding," acting as musical-director and schoolmaster. During

MR. HERBERT BARNES.

that period about one hundred clever children passed through his hands, and among his pupils who are occupying prominent positions to-day are Maidie Andrews, Ida Valli, Rosie Dane, and Queenie Preston.

This engagement did not prevent him taking an interest in pantomime, for Mr. Coote released him to assist Messrs. Dotteridge and Longden, under whose management he produced, musically, several excellent pantomimes, amongst these being productions at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, Theatre Royal, Halifax, and the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead. It was at the latter place Mr. Barnes first met Bert Harrow, the comedian, who is scoring such a success in the Alexandra pantomime this season, and he kept him under notice with a view to the present engagement.

The late Mr. Lester Collingwood, considered to be one of the best judges of talent in the profession, next claimed Mr. Barnes, and he came to Birmingham as musical-director and composer. He played a very prominent part in the success of "Red Riding Hood," "Aladdin," and "Dick Whittington." Last year he arranged and produced "Mother Goose" for Mr. Salberg, and this season he has made the biggest success of his career with "Robinson Crusoe."

Mr. Barnes has two clever daughters, one of whom (Miss Katie) has made a successful début in the "Robinson Crusoe" pantomime.

"FOR THE SAKE OF CHARITY."

Comedy, in One Act, by Alice Clayton Greenes, Produced at the New Theatre, Cambridge, on Monday, Jan. 27.

Arthur Ingram ..... Mr. Campbell Cargill
James Grant ..... Mr. Eric Bass
Constance ..... Miss Carrie Brockman

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

The action of this amusing little piece takes place at the Grants' seaside residence. Constance is discovered writing to her fiancée to terminate her engagement. After various unsuccessful attempts to indite a sufficiently withering missive, she is interrupted by her brother, who wishes her to rehearse her part in the forthcoming amateur performance. But Constance will none of him nor the play, and only yields after much persuasion and an appeal "for the sake of charity." Her reluctance is explained when we see her quondam lover as her stage swain. Taking advantage of the amusing situation during the rehearsal, her lover pleads his own cause, and, as he is really innocent of all, save an excusable appropriation of her photograph, Constance receives him into her favour again, and all ends happily through their exertions "for the sake of charity." The characters were all capitally played.

The "Dick Whittington" season at the King's, Edinburgh, which closes to-night, is to be followed by three weeks of grand opera. On Monday (Students' night) the whole theatre was taken over by the Students' Representative Council. Mr. P. L. Howat, the popular manager, and Mr. A. Douglas Willcox, musical-director, were, on behalf of the Council, presented with souvenirs. The evening did not pass off without a remonstrance from the manager addressed to a noisy section of the audience.

"A PETTICOAT PRINCE."

New and Original Comic Opera, in Three Acts, Written by Charles Winthrop, Music by Bernard Johnson, Produced at the New Spa Opera House, Bridlington, on Jan. 28.

Loris ..... Mr. W. P. Field
Grand Duke Paul ..... Mr. Val Gould
Feodor ..... Miss Dorothy Cranswick
Sergius ..... Mr. Hubert Grantham
Perekoff ..... Mr. W. Cooper
Vladimir ..... Mr. G. L. Wallis
Peter ..... Mr. S. Dobson
House Steward .... Mr. H. Stanley Cranswick
Vaneshka ..... Mrs. Frank Moor
Annetta ..... Mrs. J. J. Wardill
Daria ..... Miss Olive Joy

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The King of Petronia had three sons, Michael, the eldest, who died in exile; and Loris and Paul, twins. Twenty-five years later the old King died suddenly, having made no provision for the succession to the throne; consequently the country was faced with the prospect of a Civil War. As the Consorts of both Princes were about to become mothers, the Government decreed that the husband of the Princess who first brought a Prince into the world should succeed to the throne. Unfortunately, each lady in due course presented her husband with an infant Princess.

However, the fact that both mothers died enabled Perekoff, the Prime Minister, to get out of the dilemma by presenting Feodora, the infant daughter of Loris, to the world as a Prince.

At the opening of the first act Loris is awaiting the return of his victorious army, which is under the command of "Prince Feodor." Feodor arrives accompanied by a Colonel Ladislas, and Perekoff, who has been anxious concerning Feodor, while relieved to find that his apprehensions are groundless, is dismayed to discover that Feodor is in love with Ladislas, really Prince Sergius, son of the deceased Grand Duke Michael; Ladislas having joined the Petronian army under an assumed name in order to watch for an opportunity of vindicating his claim to the throne.

The King announces his intention of providing Feodor with a wife, his niece Annetta, daughter of the Grand Duke Paul. Annetta, however, is in love with Count Vladimir, and she, Feodor, Vaneshka and Perekoff are in despair. Feodor and Annetta tell the King that they have never thought of each other in that light, and he grants them a week in which to fall in love with each other. The week passes, and Perekoff proposes that Feodor shall make a direct offer of marriage to Annetta, believing she will refuse him. Feodor does so, but to his dismay is accepted, and has to confess the truth to Annetta, simultaneously discovering her own love for Ladislas. With a view to inducing Ladislas to leave the Court he is informed of Feodor's identity and that she is in love with him.

It is decided that Perekoff, Ladislas, and Feodora shall fly. Vaneshka and Annetta remain, Annetta assuming Feodora's manly garb.

The hour of betrothal arrives, the King and courtiers enter, but where is Perekoff? and where is Feodor and his fiancee? At this juncture, Vladimir reviles the supposed prince and is arrested, whereupon Annetta confesses. The Court breaks up, and the King is left by the majority of his indignant courtiers. Later on, Loris and his adherents besieged by Paul and his forces, are driven back into the citadel of the capital, where they are rapidly being starved out. Ladislas is captured by Loris, and kept a prisoner. Feodor and Perekoff arrive, and Feodor is warmly received by Vladimir and Annetta, to whom she announces her marriage with Ladislas. Finally Paul's troops make another assault, and Loris and his adherents are released. The piece closes with rejoicings and cheers for King Sergius, who arrives with his troops and Queen Feodora.

The opera has been most carefully rehearsed under the author and composer, and the performance reached a high level of excellence, the chorus were of fine quality, their singing being bright and full of tone, and their various evolutions neatly performed. Miss Dorothy Cranswick as Feodor was charming both in singing and acting, and her full, rich soprano voice was much admired in the various numbers allotted to her. The part of Annetta was acted with full force and effect, the duet in the second act with Feodor being splendidly rendered. Miss Olive Joy's Daria was a smart piece of pertness, and she had a pretty dance in the third act. Mr. Grantham deserves special mention both for his careful rendering of his songs and clever acting. Mr. W. Cooper's Perekoff gave him full opportunity for his humorous talent. Mr. Field as the King and Mr. Gould, the Grand Duke, were excellent in their parts; Mr. Wallis as Vladimir sang capitally; and the Vaneshka of Mrs. Moor was a carefully thought-out part. Mr. Johnson has written some tuneful numbers, and the stirring march which the chorus gave with good effect in Act I., and which is heard at intervals throughout the three acts, purports to be the National March of Petronia. The scenery is by T. Robinson, Liverpool, and the dresses by P. J. Simmons and Co., London, and both were admirable. The production of the opera was entrusted to Mr. R. C. Luxton, the manager of the New Spa, and he deserves the greatest credit for the efficient manner in which he has trained the company, the smoothness of the working on the first night testifying to his admirable work. At the close of the performance the principals were all called to the front, and there were loud calls for "Author" and "Composer," Mr. Johnson announcing that Sir Inigo Thomas and himself were delighted with the reception given to the opera, and wished to present the hon. stage-manager with a small token of their appreciation for the hard work he had put in to produce the opera. Lady Thomas made the presentation—a beautiful silver loving-cup—and in a few words Mr. Luxton returned thanks.

The performance of the opera has been continued every evening during the week, concluding to-night (Saturday). The opera is to be performed in Glasgow in a few weeks' time, and there can be little doubt that it will have a prosperous career, several of the melodies having a charm of tone which will make them popular wherever they are heard.

A THEATRICAL ELOPEMENT.

At the Edinburgh Theatre, in the early days of the last century, a fishmonger named Stirling became desirous of displaying his powers in the rôle of Hastings, and eventually obtained leave from the manager to appear. When he had gone nearly halfway through the part, amidst the din of cat-calls, hisses and roars of laughter, he retired, but the audience naturally expected him to return and finish what he had so ludicrously begun, when, to the utter disappointment of the laughter-loving critics, the manager made his appearance, and thus addressed the house: "Ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Stirling, a very good fishmonger, has been so much mortified by your disapprobation of his performance in Hastings that he has not only made his escape suddenly from the theatre, but I vow to God, ladies and gentlemen, has taken with him Mr. Ross's best pair of breeches!"

Telephone Call Office.—For the convenience of advertisers and members of the amusement professions, a public telephone call office is installed at "The Era" offices, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

OLD FOLK AT PANTOMIME.

By the courtesy and kindly consideration of Mr. Harry Day, Mr. Ed. Lauri, and Mr. Peter Davey, the acting-manager of the Broadway Theatre, New Cross, the "old folk" of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum, in the Old Kent-road, on Thursday attended and immensely enjoyed the pantomime of "Aladdin," which has been running with so much success in this particular district of the immense metropolis. The pantomime is bright, smart, and witty. It is full of topical allusions, well mounted, and it has been produced with a skill and completeness which commands general approbation.

The old folk got to the theatre in their own way, and on arriving there they were courteously received by the Chairman of the Asylum, Mr. A. Brooks, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. George Grant, wife of the immediate past chairman, Miss Brooks, the secretary, and several members of the board of management.

About 180 of the old people were present, and refreshments were provided by the kindly consideration of the chairman and his wife.

Amongst those who were present were: Mr. W. E. Carpenter and Alderman H. J. Raiment (past-chairmen), Mr. J. E. Neal, Mr. E. H. Moseley, and Mr. C. L. Wright (trustees), Mr. David Bear (past trustee), Mr. T. W. Layton, Mr. S. G. Beale, Mr. F. S. Davy, and Mr. T. C. Colmer (governors), Mr. R. Truckell, Mr. C. J. Weston (secretary), and Mr. J. H. Annett (assistant (secretary).

In the interval of the entertainment the Chairman and Board of Management met the representatives of the theatre in the board-room, and tendered to them their hearty thanks for their generosity and kindness in inviting the old people to so excellent a pantomime. Mr. Brooks said the management were deeply indebted, and the old folk had been charmed. In the midst of their joys, however, there were sorrows—a poor old lady of 84 years had just passed away. She had been in the institution for 34 years, and had received as much in weekly allowances during that period as £850, besides other benefits. That was a factor in the history of the Asylum. Although it might be, perhaps, unique, it showed the good work which was being performed. (Applause.) In conclusion, he wished, on behalf of the Board of Management of the Asylum, every success to the pantomime, to the artistes, and to those who were directing so admirable a show.

Mr. Peter Davey, acting-manager, in replying, said he thanked the Chairman of the Asylum for his remarks. He hoped the old folk had thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Mr. Lauri, also replying, observed that all he could say was that he hoped to see them all present next year.

At the close of the performance Aladdin (Miss Esta Stella) was presented with a handsome bouquet from the institution, amidst the cheers of the inmates.

COSMOPOLIS THEATRE.

The cosy Cosmopolis Theatre was crowded with an enthusiastic audience last Sunday afternoon when the Spanish Section of the Foreign Theatre Society gave its first performance. They had chosen three one-act plays, but were unfortunately prevented from presenting "El Bigote Rubio," so the afternoon opened with "Manana de Sol," in which the principal rôles were ably sustained by Senor G. Llopis and Senorita A. Castillo. Then followed "Los Meritorios," which shows how two beginners with ambitions for stage honours, are unable to act in public, but when left alone are found to be doing exactly what the producer was trying to make them do. The reason, of course, is that they have fallen in love. As the producer, Senor Ricardo de Alba gave an excellent rendering of his part; and the two would-be actors were admirably portrayed by Senorita A. Castillo and Senor G. Llopis respectively. They were ably assisted by Senoritas Valentine Visconti, Adela Visconti, and Senores A. Moreno and A. Carreras. Lastly, "El Marido de Mama" highly entertained the audience. The situations throughout the play were very amusing; and Senor de Alba made the most of them. The three plays were produced by Senor Llopis, to whom great praise is due for arranging such an excellent programme.

A rather good tale is extant regarding Mr. Love, the actor who appeared at Drury Lane as Falstaff. Reputed to be a man of some genius, he was accustomed to "puff" himself in the papers regarding his excellency in the part, a circumstance which availed him little, however, as he could never bring a full house. An actor named Bignell was sitting with a company of players in the Black Lion, and upon filling a pipe he found that the funnel was stopped. After several attempts at lighting, he threw the pipe down in a passion, exclaiming: "Egad, gentlemen, I am like your new Falstaff. I have been puffing and puffing this long while past, but all to no purpose, for I am not able to draw!"

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LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

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ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Jan. 27, the Play, with Music, entitled
"THE MERRY WIDOW."

Mr. Geo. Edwardes's company is paying a return visit here this week with this delightful musical play. In the title-rôle, Sonia, Miss Gladys Lancaster is charming, her winning manner, acting, singing, and dancing quickly making her a favourite with the audience. Mr. Robert Needham, a clever actor, is capital as Prince Danilo, his scenes with Sonia being especially good. The witticisms and antics of Baron Popoff, represented by Mr. Alfred Beers, made the house almost rock with laughter. The jealous General Novokovitch has in Mr. Cecil Warwick a worthy exponent. Mr. Adrian Beaumont, as Nisch, is funny, and is a clever dancer. In association with Miss Katie May—a most fascinating Frou-Frou—he gives the Apache dance, which is redemanded. Miss Cecil Haydon shows decided ability as Natalie, Popoff's wife, her by-play being smart. Miss Ethel Darsley is well placed as Olga. Mr. Ronald Pomeroy capably portrays Vicomte Jollidon, his singing being everything that can be desired. Mr. Tom H. David does well as Marquis de Cascada, as also does Mr. Sidney Calland as M. de St. Brioche. Minor characters are filled by Misses Beatrice Willis, Adeline Roze, Trixie Valnor, Doris Ryder, Gladys Gabrielle, Mary Fortescue, and Dacie Bedford, Messrs. C. L. Steward and Clinton Reynald. The scenery and effects are excellent, and the costumes exquisite.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Jan. 27, the Drama, entitled
"THE MYSTERIES OF THE THAMES."

Mr. Walter Steele has brought this sensational and domestic drama to Woolwich for the first time this week, and judging by the reception accorded it the management will be wise in booking a return date.

Mr. Steele himself successfully undertakes the arduous rôle of the ruined gambler, Richard Brandon, his impersonation being a realistic one. Miss Dolores Hope, as Kate, his wife, acts excellently. Miss Lillian Ross plays cleverly the dual rôle of the twin sisters, Flash Nell and Grace. The villainous Capt. Jas. Denbigh has an admirable exponent in Mr. Jas. Somerville, and his comedian companions in crime, Bill Bosco and Peter Waggles, are humorously enacted by Messrs. Fred Rignold and Bert Ellis. Miss Florence Spencer as Emma Seaton also adds to the fun. Pathetic, indeed, is the impersonation by Miss Clarice Jenner of the poor dupe, Bertie Fitzgerald. A clever child, Miss Hilda Trelawney, made an excellent impression by her enactment of Little Doris, also singing very sweetly and dancing neatly. Mr. George L. Tearle successfully "doubles" the rôles of the young lawyer, Jack Hammond and the rutal warder, Ben Lorrimer, and Mr. Geo. Gabb in a similar manner enacts Sol Crockett and Sergt. Powen. Scenery, effects, and dressing are first class.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Jan. 27, the play, entitled
"SWEENY TODD."

There is a certain fascination in the doings of "the demon barber of Fleet-street" that irresistibly appeals to lovers of dramatic fare, and when the part of Sweeny Todd is handled by such an accomplished exponent as Mr. W. S. Hartford the interest is increased tenfold. In Marylebone this week Mr. Hartford has been warmly welcomed, and his clever and cynical delineation has been much admired. Mr. Leonard Clapham makes a good impression as the young sailor, Mark Ingestre; Mr. Edward Boddy is successful as Jasper Oakley; Mr. Ernest Lawson enacts the Rev. Septimus Lupin with ease; Mr. Frank Carlile plays in his usual careful way as Jonas Fogg; and Mr. R. A. Beaton proffers a delightful study of pompous officialdom in the person of Ben Wagstaff, the portly Fleet-street beadle. Miss Sophie Fane enacts Mrs. Lovett with convincing effect, and speaks her lines clearly; Miss Florence Barnes portrays Joanna Oakley with an earnest sincerity that appeals to all; Miss Winifrede Dryden does well as Araminta; and Miss May Maddison's embodiment of Tobias Ragg is full of those delicate touches that denote the true artiste. Mr. W. J. Mackay produces the play for Mr. F. R. Griffiths in his usual painstaking way, and Mr. Ward Bailey's orchestra considerably adds to the evening's enjoyment.

EALING HIPPODROME.

On Monday, Jan. 27, the Drama, entitled
"FIND THE WOMAN."

"Find the Woman," from the Garrick Theatre is the popular attraction here this week. Played by Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company, the talented members are to be congratulated on a really excellent presentation. Dealing as it does with modern American life, and especially the police methods across the "pond," the play affords many opportunities for powerful acting and comedy of a crisp and essentially American flavour. In the rôle of Mrs. Howard Jefferies, jun., Miss Valerie Wyngate scores in no uncertain fashion, and richly deserves the appreciation which greets her efforts. She is admirably supported by the other members of the cast. Mr. Edmund F. Kennedy as Richard Dexter gives an excellent account of the kindly old lawyer. As Mrs. Howard Jefferies, sen., Miss Lindsay Fincham acts impressively, and as her highly respectable and unbending husband, Mr. Powis Pinder, also gives an effective portrayal. Howard Jefferies, jun., is creditably played by Mr. T. C. Leister, a like remark applying to the Robert Underwood of Mr. Stephen Langton. The bullying captain Clinton is well played by Mr. A. V. Bramble, and as Dr. Bernstein Mr. Rothbury Evans acquits himself acceptably. Other members of the company are Messrs. E. Snowdon, W. H. Lane, Ellis Dee, Master Percy Dyer, and Mr. C. Calvert, who adds the duty of stage-managing to his small part in the play, which is well staged.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Jan. 27,
"KISMET."

The decidedly interesting and novel play, "Kismet," by Edward Knoblauch, is presented this week at the Dalston Theatre by Mr. George Dance's company. All the necessary "atmosphere" for the true significance of the representation is present, and audiences watch the development of the story with the keenest interest, and are lavish with applause at the final fall of the curtain. Mr. James Hughes as Hajj, the beggar, creates a general feeling of admiration by his ability in illustrating the varying moods of the really wonderful character he impersonates—a man to whom Kismet, or, otherwise expressed, Fate, affords abundant opportunity of experiencing the most varying passions. Perhaps the most human, and, therefore, the most touching, trait in the beggar's character is his love for his daughter, Marsinah, and it is in striking contrast to his devilish glee in being revenged upon his worst enemies. As the fascinating Marsinah—so beautiful that her father describes her as a "slice off the moon"—Miss Dorothy Whitaker wins unstinted manifestations of approval. Miss Mara Collings provides intermittent amusement by her quaint ways as Nargis, nurse to Marsinah. Mr. Fred Gage as the Muezzin and Mr. Joseph Lynch as the Imam Mahmud are both effective in their respective parts, and due attention to necessary effect is also fully observed by Mr. C. Hart as the guide, Nasir, Mr. Norman St. George as the Sheik Jawan, and Mr. Val Gulley as the beggar, Kasim. Mr. Val Gulley also appears as a gaoler. Mr. Frank Lester as Amru and Mr. H. M. Holles as Zayd, shopkeepers, impart characteristic energy to business details in the market scene. Mr. Riddell Robinson as the Caliph Abdullah has full opportunity for being popular, and he attains to the very height of that desired end. Mr. Robert Gray is the Wazir Abu Bakr, and as the unscrupulous Wazir Mansur Mr. Cecil Du Gue helps materially in maintaining the interest of the strenuous workings of the plot. Mr. Philip Sefton is a Chamberlain of the Caliph. Miss Rene Challis achieves success as a dancer. Miss Madoline Rees plays the part of Kut-al-Kulub, Mansur's first wife, charmingly. The cast also includes Mr. Arthur Mann (A. Mufti), Miss Flo Sewel, Miss Louie May, Miss Enid South, Mr. Jay Ellis, Mr. Ernest Miller, Mr. Leonard Mavis, Mr. Jack Kelly, Mr. H. Barber, Miss Marion Hunt, and Chung Lang. The characters before the curtain are represented as follows:—The Man, Mr. Harold Andrews; the Woman, Miss Gwen Wheeland; the Story-Teller, Mr. Philip Sefton; the Sorceress, Miss Jessie Hitter; and the Dancer, Miss Rene Challis.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.

The famous drama, "A Dark Secret," by John Douglas, is being presented here. In the course of the development of an exciting and interesting story some exceptionally clever and realistic scenes are introduced with novel water effects, including real boats, a real rainstorm, and a sculling race at Henley. During the last-mentioned scene the stage is converted into a wonderfully artistic representation and beautiful spectacular effect is obtained. The play is produced at this theatre by arrangement with Mr. Henry Herne, who furnished a creditable embodiment of Arthur Loates. Mr. George Langdon displayed much talent in his acting of Jonas Norton, and as Stephen Norton Mr. Wilfred H. Benson deserves most favourable notice. Mr. W. A. Passmore was quite successful in the part of James Norton, and useful support was given by Mr. Millar Anderson as Cecil Raines, and Mr. Philip Darien exhibited ability as Martin Brook. His splendid physique enabled him to look the part. In his portrayal of Jim Slim Mr. Henry Dore was acceptable, and Mr. Frank Beavor as Samuel, a waiter at Henley, contributed his quota to the success. Mr. Arthur T. Lennard ably assisted by his droll impersonation of P.C. Short. As May Joyce, Miss Ida Millais merits high praise, her performance being entirely natural throughout. This lady, in conjunction with Mr. Henry Herne, aroused breathless interest and excitement when, in Scene XII., May is rescued from the water by Arthur Loates (Mr. Herne), who plunged in and brought her out. The actor subsequently appeared in response to enthusiastic calls. Miss Agnes Paulton, by her well-studied and capital rendition of Nellie Norton, greatly enhanced her reputation, and in her reading of Bessie Hardane clever Miss Sybil Etherington gained full sympathy; especially good, too, was the excellent and lifelike exposition of the cruel and heartless Mme. Le Fontaine by Miss Gertrude F. Godart. The dresses and wigs, being by the firm of John Hyman, quite reached the high grade demanded in Mr. Stoll's theatres.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE THEATRE.

This week we have a return visit of Mr. Andrew Melville's company in "Driven From Home." The judiciously selected company should be commended all round for a bright and finished interpretation. The acting honours must be awarded Mr. George Mitchell, whose performance of the hard-hearted, relentless old father, Antony Raybrook, reaches a high standard. Mr. Francis Everard makes a fine hero, zealously applying his abilities throughout. Mr. Harry Penn acts with admirable tact as George Clissold, and the part of Peter Pettifer is ably acted by Mr. George Lawrence. Mr. William Bradford gives the orthodox delineation of the "villain of the piece." His Geoffrey Waring is an accomplished piece of acting. Messrs. Arnold Winters, Tom Dyson, and F. Bates are worthy of mention for their share of the work as Tom Mortlake, Phineas Mullet, and Tim Murphy. Mr. Henry Helling must be complimented on his delineation of Adam Marley, a capital character sketch of the family lawyer. As Willie, the outcast, Mr. David Noble gains appreciation and sympathy, giving a decidedly well-studied reading. Mr. T. Hammond Asquin, as John Anderson, and Miss Dora Hargreaves keep the comic element briskly going, and are soon great favourites with their audience. Mr. Harry Cornwall presents a capable character sketch of the trusted old servant Jabez Thomas. Mr. Cornwall makes much of the character, and is decidedly clever. Mr. Henry Scatchard plays with convincing realism the part of Dick Saunders, a very bad sample of a British workman, and accomplice of Geoffrey Waring, the villain. Miss Eva Norman, as Laura Raybrook, old Raybrook's daughter and Walter's wife, gives a natural and sympathetic portrayal of the girl who is driven from home, and afterwards appears as young Walter Hatherleigh, a part she cleverly undertakes. Her work throughout is much appreciated. Miss Ina Grant has a rôle well suited to her as Barbara Ashdown, making her points quietly and without effort. Miss Madge Muriel is seen to advantage as Fanny Jones, and the remainder of the long cast are one and all satisfactory. The many scenes are effective, and the setting is good.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Jan. 27, the Drama, by Eva Elwes, entitled
"LOVE—AND WHAT THEN?"

Mrs. Frank Bateman and her company are always assured of a cordial welcome at the Stratford Theatre Royal, and this week the numerous patrons of Mrs. Ellis-Fredericks' popular melodrama theatre are satisfactorily solving for themselves the interrogative of "Love—and What Then?" The piece is extremely well written, and contains some thrilling situations, which, on the night of our visit, frequently elicited involuntary exclamations from the more susceptible feminine members of the audience, while the necessary comic relief has not been overlooked. Mrs. Frank Bateman adds yet another to her list of successes in the rôle of the much-wronged Mary Wakefield, who is depicted with real sympathy and much feeling, allied to a charming personality. Mr. Fred W. Goddard contributes a dignified and impressive impersonation of the fair-minded Rev. George Wright, and is convincing throughout. Mr. Harry Aynsleigh plays powerfully as the despicable Major Fordyce, who has a worthy colleague in the crafty, conceited General Barker, a part most successfully played by Mr. J. P. Lallen. Mr. Hill Cremer is capital as the easy-going Claude St. Heliers; the rotund Rab McPheezie is a frequent source of amusement in the capable hands of Mr. Spry Palmer; and a genuine piece of character acting comes from Mr. Robert Monteigle as the rugged, honest gamekeeper, William Wakefield. Miss Camille Treherne plays sympathetically as Alice Wakefield; and Miss Marion Vyner makes a vivacious Rosa Ryan; while others who do well include Miss Kitty Vererose as Mrs. Barker and Miss Maud Taylor as Flash Nell.

The Misses Irene and May Ward-Meyer will give a pianoforte and violin recital at the Æolian Hall, New Bond-street, on Tuesday afternoon next.

"ALADDIN" AT THE MARLBOROUGH.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

The opinions we expressed as to the merits of Mr. Fred Frederick's pantomime, "Aladdin," have been fully endorsed by the great multitude of spectators who have witnessed it since the opening performance. In the name part Miss May Garstang is charming, and her bright style and winsome personality excellently befit her for the part. Miss Garstang acts, sings, and dances splendidly all through; as a result she makes an unqualified success, and is many times recalled. Of her vocal efforts, all her songs are rendered with excellent effect, but the favourites are decidedly "Oh, you beautiful doll," and the moonlight duet (with novel lighting effects) with Miss Roma June. This lady is capital as Badroulbadour, and renders with excellent effect the numbers allotted to her, getting a good deal out of the song, "Joshua." Mr. Arthur Stigant's quaint and genial personality has much to do with the popularity of the pantomime, his Widow Twankey being one of his drollest conceptions. He works strenuously, and with the happiest of results. As at the opening performance, his variations of "Come with me down Regent-street," sung as by Irish, Welsh, coster, and American ladies respectively, is one of his greatest hits. He is also warmly applauded, together with Mr. Syd Walker, for the topical duet, "What does it matter?" Mr. Syd Walker's performance as Abanazar is consistently good throughout. He makes every point tell with his quiet humour, and his efforts meet with liberal applause. A decided hit is his song, "I do love my wife," in which he is ably assisted by a confederate in the stalls, the house fairly rocking with laughter. We must not omit to mention Miss Dora Poole, who is scoring heavily as Pekoe, singing with particular charm, "If I had a girl like Molly." Mr. Kenna Lawson is a great favourite as Washee Washee, and gains much applause for his rendering of his two popular items, "The Wibbley wobbley walk," and "Who were you with last night?" Miss Florence Yaymen scores one of the evening's successes as Sau See, and her contributions, "Sylvester" and her "coon" song, with appropriate dancing, are cleverly rendered. Messrs. Dan and Pat Redmond give some extraordinary bits of comic acting, causing roars of merriment, and, in addition to their clever speciality act, work indefatigably throughout. Miss Lena Clayton and Mr. F. Madinella are both well placed as the Slaves of the Ring and Lamp. Messrs. Frank A. Wood and A. Vernon are both excellent, the first-named as the Emperor, and the latter as the Grand Vizier. The remainder of the long cast and the large number of auxiliaries all give evidence of careful drilling. It is a genuinely funny and charmingly mounted pantomime. We must not omit to mention the Eight Sunrays, with their speciality dances, which possess more than average merit. The Marlborough orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Charles Aves, smartly performs its allotted duties. In front of the house, Mr. Murray Herriot, resident-manager, and Mr. Charles Aldred, for Mr. Fred Fredericks, do everything possible for the comfort of their clientèle.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, WINDSOR.

On Monday, Jan. 27, the Historical Play,
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

The popular residential manager, Mr. J. E. Bull, is to be congratulated on the high-class winter programmes that he has put before his numerous patrons. He has this week secured a return visit of Mr. W. W. Kelly's company, with "A Royal Divorce," which is proving a welcome attraction. It is excellently produced, the staging being most realistic. Mr. Juan Buonaparte is artistic and impressive as Napoleon; Mr. R. Easten Pickering gives a powerful and convincing impersonation of Talleyrand, Minister of State; Mr. George Howard looks and acts well as the gallant General Aujereau; Mr. Charles Hartopp fills with effect the part of the Marquis de Beaumont, and deserves high praise for a clever performance. Mr. Alfred Holles also contributes useful support as Marshal Murat. Mr. W. Robins makes the most of his opportunities as Doctor Corvisart. Excellent work is also done by Mr. C. Jackson as Lord Keith, the British admiral; Bob Royal is in the experienced hands of Mr. W. O'Connor; and Mr. Sam V. Lysons is successful as Grimaud. The interpretation of the emotional character of the Empress Josephine by Miss Violet Ellicott meets with much approbation, and a large share of the success of the play is due to her efforts. A clever actress, also, is Miss Lillian Herries, who as Marie Louise is both natural and impressive. Miss Clara Earle makes a delightful and vivacious Stephanie de Beauharnais, and praise must also go to Miss Madge Collier in the small, yet important, rôle of the Gouvernante of the King of Rome. The little King of Rome was presented prettily by little Miss Agnes Zambuhl. Miss Olive Maitland does all that is expected of her as Blanche d'Hervas, and Miss Edith Lynmore is good as Angelique de Varennes. Others in the cast all doing good work are Mr. Edward Longford (Brigadier Antoine), Mr. Lawton Orme (Brigadier Pierre), Mr. P. Morris (First Lieutenant), Mr. J. Rigby (officer of the Palace Guards), Mr. W. Reed (a servant), Miss Marie Johns (Jean La Terreur), and Miss Helen Meadows (Mother Lomas). An attentive and hard-working stage-manager is Mr. Alfred Holles, and the business-manager of the company is Mr. J. H. Tomkinson.

CROYDON REPERTORY THEATRE.

Much interest has been roused by the announcement in the Press of the Croydon Repertory Theatre. Mr. Keble Howard and Mr. Dick Adams, who are responsible for the enterprise, are being inundated with applications from actors, actresses, and stage-managers, and every post brings its bundle of new plays. The interest is by no means confined to the profession, notable people in every walk of life having sent their good wishes for the success of the enterprise. The leading residents of Croydon have offered to form a committee for the sale of subscription tickets, and to help forward the scheme by means of meetings, lectures, and so forth. In the meantime instructions have been given to one of the biggest firms of London decorators to overhaul the theatre, and on the opening night, April 14, the auditorium of the Grand, Croydon, will present a charming, original, and altogether striking appearance. We are asked by the directors to state that the plays will not be cast for at least another two weeks. Authors are requested to note that it is not necessary to send a preliminary letter before submitting their plays.

On Monday the Stage Club will give a performance of Mr. C. Haddon Chambers' comedy-drama, "Captain Swift," at Cripplegate Institute.

The death is announced at Bath on Monday last of Herr Otto Sondermann, at the age of 70. He was one of the best-known teachers of singing in the West of England, and for over twenty-five years was conductor of the Bath Choral Union. He also ran concerts in Bath and Bristol at which nearly all the leading vocal and instrumental stars appeared. He was of most genial disposition, and his loss is deplored by a large circle of friends.

SPECIALS FROM THE PROVINCES.

"THE SON AND HEIR."

An Original Play, in Four Acts, by Gladys Unger, Produced at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on Monday, Jan. 27.

Sir Everard Chilworth, Bart. ..... Mr. Edmund Maurice
Everard Chilworth ..... Mr. Max Leeds
Pascoe Tandridge ..... Mr. Norman Trevor
Felix Fourie ..... Mr. Raymond Lauzerte
John Brock ..... Mr. Reginald Owen
Cecil Chilworth ..... Mr. Bobbie Andrews
Tidder ..... Mr. Charles Daly
William ..... Mr. Lambert Plummer
Lady Chilworth ..... Miss Cynthia Brooke
Amy Chilworth ..... Miss Ethel Dane
Miss Chilworth ..... Miss Jean Cadell
Dorman ..... Miss Mary Griffiths
Beatrice Wishaw ..... Miss Ethel Irving

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

Whatever else a play may do it must interest, and on the theme of love Miss Unger has built a most interesting play in which the love scenes, splendidly enacted by the players, stand out with special strength and cleverness. At the fall of the curtain an audience, enthusiastic in its demand, clamoured for the appearance of the authoress, to whom was given unqualified praise. The Chilworths are a typical English family of the upper class. The head is Sir Everard Chilworth, whose stern and cold manner, selfish and hard nature radiate a chilly atmosphere, which settles upon the household whenever he is present. But in this unsympathetic heart there is one tender spot kept for his son and heir, Everard. In this son the father sees himself live again to worthily uphold the family name, of which he is so proud. The father's one thought and one care in life are for this idol of the family, and Lady Chilworth, her two daughters, and younger son are subordinate persons to be sacrificed to the great central figure, Everard, the "son and heir," who, in the intervals of keeping terms at Oxford, is being coached, when he can spare the time from hunting, by a young, clever, but poor tutor, John Brock.

Now, some years before the opening of the play Sir Everard's eldest daughter, Beatrice, had fallen in love with a gifted but struggling young author named Pascoe Tandridge. The angry father forbids any idea of marriage in such circumstances, and at the earliest opportunity he marries Beatrice to a wealthy, but notoriously evil-living man named Wishaw. After four years of torture with this man she decides to leave him for ever, and in the afternoon of the opening of the play she returns to her father's house ostensibly on a short visit, and here she meets her old lover Pascoe Tandridge, now a great and successful writer of novels. The two are lovers still, and soon it is arranged between them that Beatrice and Pascoe shall "bolt" on the morrow.

And here history repeats itself, for Amy, Sir Everard's youngest daughter, has fallen in love with John Brock, the tutor, "who hasn't a bob." This love affair reaches the ears of her father and Sir Everard, after calling Brock a damned scoundrel, orders him to leave the house next day. Knowledge of this is indeed ill news to Amy, who, utterly miserable and unable to sleep, goes to Beatrice's bedroom, and in the quiet of the night confides in her sister. A knock at the door startles the two girls. Sir Everard, noticing the light so late at night, has come to investigate. In the bedroom Amy, half frightened, but wholly defiant, tells her father she will never give up this one love of her young life, and, weeping bitter tears, she is dismissed to her room. Beatrice and Sir Edward remain. Beatrice, taking her courage in both hands, charges him with ruining her life and happiness by marrying her to such a despicable man as Wishaw, and, full of indignation, she points out that he is condemning Amy to a similar unhappy fate. The father remains obdurate, and, finally, Beatrice tells him that her unhappy married life has driven her to another man, and that she intends going away with him in the morning. Blind with fury Sir Everard says he will kill his daughter first. Seizing her roughly round the throat he proceeds to carry out his threat, but Beatrice's screams soon bring to the door a young Frenchman staying in the house. Father and daughter agree that he must know nothing, and, after persuading the Frenchman that he has been either dreaming or has heard a ghost, Sir Everard and his visitor depart to their rooms.

Next morning at breakfast Sir Everard informs the company that he has an important announcement to make—his daughter Amy and John Brock are shortly to be married. Beatrice now feels that her father has done the right thing; she must do the same. A loving good-bye is said to Pascoe Tandridge and she dutifully returns to her husband.

It would be difficult to speak too highly of the charm and womanly sweetness which Miss Ethel Irving introduced into the part of Beatrice Wishaw, and at the end of the third act her emotional and dramatic acting aroused applause worthy of her talents. Miss Ethel Dane, too, imparted a tenderness and sympathy to her oftentimes difficult work as Amy Chilworth, which made it a conspicuous success. The part of Lady Chilworth was played by Miss Cynthia Brooke with such excellent feeling and moderation as demands liberal praise. Miss Jean Cadell as Miss Chilworth contributed largely to the gaiety of the audience, and Dorman had a very clever and genial representative in Miss Mary Griffiths. Mr. Edmund Maurice undertook the part of Sir Everard in a strong, clear, and characteristic way, which made the Spartan father a living reality. Mr. Norman Trevor made an ideal lover, Pascoe Tandridge, whose strength and certainty were apparent. Mr. Raymond Lauzerte, bright, interesting, even fascinating, gave fine finish to his efforts as Felix Fourie. Mr. Reginald Owen contributed a well-judged, earnest, and manly account of the tutor, John Brock. Mr. Bobbie Andrews was a delightfully juvenile and buoyant Cecil, and Everard, Tidder and William were smaller parts extremely well played.

"THE DEAN OF ST. PATRICK'S."

A Play, in Four Acts, by G. Sidney Paternoster, Produced for the First Time in the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Jan. 23, 1913.

Patrick ..... Mr. Michael Conniff
Sweetheart ..... Miss Helen Moloney
Mistress Esther Johnston (Stella) ..... Miss Nell Byrne
Mrs. Dingley ..... Miss Nora Desmond
Dr. Jonathan Swift ..... Mr. Patrick Murphy
His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin ..... Mr. George St. John
Mr. Joseph Addison ..... Mr. Farrell Pelly
Mrs. Van Homrigh ..... Miss Ettie Fletcher
Mistress Anne Long ..... Miss Una O'Connor
Mistress Hester Van Homrigh (Vanessa) ..... Miss Ann Coppinger
Mrs. Touchet ..... Miss Nell Stewart
First Lady ..... Miss Kathleen O'Brien
Second Lady ..... Miss Betty King
Viscount Bolingbroke ..... Mr. Philip Guiny
Royal Servant ..... Mr. Thomas Barrett
Mr. Congreve ..... Mr. A. Patrick Wilson
Duke of Ormond ..... Mr. Charles Power
Dr. John Arbuthnot ..... Mr. Eric Gorman
Robert Harley, Earl of Oxford ..... Mr. Sean Connolly

Great interest was taken in this, the first play ever written round Doctor Jonathan Swift. Mr. G. Sidney Paternoster (who occupies a prominent position on the staff of "Truth") has shown that there is good dramatic material in the subject, and as his piece presents it in a very interesting manner there was only justice in the cordial applause which brought him to bow his acknowledgments before the curtain the other night. Mr. Lennox Robinson might have been called with him, for much of the charm of the piece consists in the very careful production, which includes scenes painted by J. F. Barlow.

Mr. Paternoster introduces, in addition to Swift, Stella and Vanessa, some of the politicians of the time—Bolingbroke, Robert Harley, Earl of Oxford, Duke of Ormond, Joseph Addison, Congreve, and Dr. Arbuthnot. The literary and historical associations had their part in assisting to commend the piece to the audience, but one can go further and say that the subject is treated with good dramatic sense. In the first act (the rectory at Laracor, 1710) we have Swift's departure for London, after an avowal of love to Stella, and a reference to the mental complaint, the fears of which had hitherto kept him from that avowal. In the second act (1713) Swift is shown at Van Homrigh's, and in addition to the piquant passages with Vanessa we have a vigorous introduction of political interest concluding with Swift's relegation to the Deanery of St. Patrick's. The scene of the third act is laid in the Cathedral itself (1716), where Stella is seen awaiting the arrival of the Archbishop and Swift, whom she is about to marry. Vanessa suddenly appears and frustrates the arrangements by claiming her cassocked cavalier. Thereupon follows Vanessa's repudiation and rejection by the infuriated man. The last act shows the mentally inflicted Dean reviewing melancholy memories with old friends while awaiting news of Stella. The message comes that she is dead, and the curtain falls as he utters the famous phrase, "Only a woman's hair."

The principal characters are vigorously drawn with a definition which is good from the dramatic point of view, and if the dialogue was at times a little stilted it was sprinkled here and there with some actual Swiftisms. The Dean is itself a hard character to portray, and Mr. Patrick Murphy deserves the highest praise for a very creditable effort. The Stella of Miss Nell Byrne was a most sympathetic and graceful figure, whilst Miss Coppinger played the fiery Vanessa with all the naturalness of a born actress. Of the others in the numerous cast, praise is especially due to Nora Desmond as Mrs. Dingley, Charles Power (Duke of Ormond), and Michael Conniff, the Dean's servant. Praise must be given also to Mr. Larchet's well-trained orchestra, who, during the evening, rendered music of the period in delightful style.

"GOGGLES."

Farcical Sketch, in One Act, by E. B. Norman, Produced at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on Tuesday, Jan. 28.

Jack ..... Mr. E. B. Norman
Dolly ..... Miss Daisy May
Wilson ..... Miss Marion de Manville
A Chauffeur ..... Mr. Lauri Howard

This little trifle is not without merit, and, with a slight shortening, might be presented with advantage. The story is that of an elderly married man receiving an invitation to spend a day with one of his former female admirers, who sends him a motor coat and goggles. He decides to accept the invitation, unknown to his wife, while she on her part also, strange to say, intends to start out in similar manner to meet a male friend. The discovery of each other's purpose causes some amount of fun, which is keenly relished, and after an interchange of opinions all suspicions are swept away and the temporary disagreement patched up. Mr. Norman played the gay husband in able style; Miss Daisy May exactly suited the part of the wife, and acted with brightness and vivacity; the servant, Wilson, was in the capable hands of Miss Marion de Manville; and a most amusing chauffeur came from Mr. Lauri Howard. At the close the audience gave the author a hearty greeting.

"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" AT THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

"Jack and the Beanstalk" is still attracting packed audiences to every performance, and rightly so, for there is no brighter or more entertaining pantomime in the metropolis. It is crammed full of humour, to which all the principals contribute in turn. Since the opening the show has improved beyond all knowledge, and is proving a great success, the greatest so far under the management of the popular and genial Sidney Barnard. Several new songs have been introduced, amongst which "Mr. Cupid" finds the most favour. It is admirably rendered by the principal boy (Miss Rene Rach), who is to be highly congratulated upon her charming performance, her entrance always being accompanied by an outburst of applause. Mr. Ally Benson, as the Dame, has established himself a great favourite, and justly so, for he is responsible for a large share of the merriment. Mr. Hal Bert, as Bill, is also worthy of the highest commendation, his quaint ways and witticisms being funny in the extreme. Miss Minnie Mace is a charming Princess Mary, and renders her songs and dances with an ease and elegance that are very pleasing. Miss Bobs Du Caine is excellent as Margery Trot, renders "Pucker up your lips, Miss Lindy" in taking style, and is responsible for an admirable dance. Miss Vic Loring, as Daphne, fits the part to perfection. The Sisters Earle render a couple of songs and dances in a most polished manner, and are to be complimented for their contribution to the pantomime. Special mention must be made of the performance of Messrs. Ally Benson, Hal Bert, and Miss René Ralph in the back-yard scene. This is one long scream, and the antics of Benson and Bert provoke much applause. The fun throughout this interlude, invented by the trio concerned, is certainly one of the features of the pantomime, and its success unquestionable. The scenery is of the best, and with a capital chorus the Elephant and Castle pantomime is one that should on no account be missed.

The Ellesmere Club will give their ninth dramatic performance at Cripplegate Theatre on Tuesday, when they will present "Tantalizing Tommy."

Last week was the first anniversary of the Palace, Barrow, and the directors invited the staff, artistes, and a few friends, numbering upwards of fifty, to an excellent supper at the Duke of Edinburgh Hotel. Mr. W. Milligen, chairman of directors, occupied the chair, and was supported by his co-directors, Messrs. E. Banks, R. Twentyman, and Fred. Newman.

Miss Daisie Irving

Wishes to thank her many friends for their kind inquiries and expressions of concern during her present illness and to assure them of her deep appreciation of their interest. Miss Irving is unable at present to answer personally the numerous letters and cards which she has received. She is recovering rapidly, however, and hopes within a short time to be able to greet her friends in person.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—"A Good Little Devil," a fairy play in three acts, has scored an unqualified success at the Belasco Theatre. Especial interest attaches to the representation of this play, because it is the work of Mme. Edmond Rostand and her son, Maurice, the nom de plume of the former being "Rosemonde Gerard." Mr. Austin Strong, who gave us the unappreciated "Toymaker of Nuremberg" a few years ago, made the adaptation. The play is said to have been very successful at the Gymnase, in Paris, under the title of "Un Bon Petit Diable." The "good little devil" is Charles MacLance, whose shrewish aunt, Mrs. MacMiche, takes the place of his dead mother. Charles is practically a prisoner, beatings, scoldings, and semi-starvation being his portion. The boy is a dreamer, and thinks far more of the creations of his mind than of the knowledge obtained through study. His attic bedroom is infested with rats, and is as cheerless a place as one could imagine, until the fairies fly into the wretched room through the window and effect a wondrously beautiful transformation. Charles finds his only solace in the companionship of Juliet, a blind girl, to whom he relates his dreams, and who becomes, through his teachings, on familiar terms with the creatures of the fields, the birds, and the flowers. Juliet's garden is shown in the second act, and is one of the most beautiful scenes that Mr. Belasco has ever devised. Charles's aunt has placed him in the big black school at Ballahulish, where the boys, mostly orphans, are treated as prisoners by Old Nick, sen., and Old Nick, jun., who keep the school and live up to their names. Charles has not visited Juliet for two years, but he suddenly appears at the gate disguised as an old beggar woman, and is shortly joined by a number of the scholars, who have managed to escape. The two Nicks arrive, and are about to handcuff Charles and take him back to the school, when a solicitor comes to announce that the lad has fallen heir to great wealth and a vast estate, as well as his deceased uncle's title of Lord Colington of Pilrig. In the last act Charles, now Lord Colington, returns to his old home, to find his aunt at death's door. He has become a man of the world and forgets, or affects to forget, all about his humble origin. Even his little blind sweetheart finds herself slighted, and learns that he is engaged to marry a lady of high degree. The familiar surroundings have an effect upon him, however, and he finds he has a conscience when he sees himself as he used to be. The good fairies, too, are in evidence once more, and all ends happily, for the blind girl's sight is restored to her, and the lovers are reunited. And Rab, the dog, shows his delight, and the squirrel in the big yew tree does likewise, and the birds whistle their loudest, and the old garden is like a glimpse of fairyland. Aptly described as "a fairy play for grown-ups," this exquisitely beautiful production has evoked a chorus of praise from the critics. In the character of a poor and unappreciated poet Mr. Ernest Lawford appears before the curtain at the beginning of each act, and in a manner that is admirably in keeping with the spirit of this charming play tells the audience what to expect. This is one of the many enjoyable little surprises that Mr. Belasco springs upon us. Another occurs in the second act when the runaways from the school at Ballahulish are captured. These little victims of cruelty and avarice are about to be taken back when Mr. Ernest Truex as Charles steps out of his stage character for a few moments and advances to the footlights to make a plea for kindness to children. Mr. Truex plays his part splendidly, and Mr. William Norris portrays the repellent character of Mrs. MacMiche in a highly effective manner. Miss Mary Pickford as Juliet is lovable and charming. Mr. Ernest Lawford's impersonation of the poor poet is one of the best of his many clever characterisations. Messrs. Edward Connelly and Etienne Girardot as the two Old Nicks are very good indeed, and Miss Iva Merlin is a capital Betsy. In the last act Mr. Henry Stanford appears as the adult Charles, and faithfully represents the change that has taken place in his character. Rab, the dog, was cleverly acted by Mr. Arthur Hill, and one must not forget to mention the ladies who appeared as the fairies, for everyone agreed that they were perfectly lovely.

"All for the Ladies," a farce with music, in which Sam Bernard is appearing with great success at the Lyric Theatre, is an adaption of a piece by Hennequin. The play provides Mr. Bernard with a capital comedy role, and he introduces a new catchword that provokes much laughter. A few seasons ago he used the word "sufficiency." Now it is "permissible," his use and pronunciation of which is almost, but not quite, as funny. In this instance he impersonates the head fitter of a Parisian dressmaking establishment. He spends most of his time, however, in captivating his extremely susceptible customers, his independence and dandified bearing being quite irresistible. He is eminently successful both as fitter and charmer, but gets himself into difficulties when he becomes too friendly with the wives of his employers. The book and lyrics are by Henry Blossom, while the music was composed by Alfred G. Robyn. A bevy of fine-looking girls in modish attire is an attractive feature of the "show." The cast includes Mr. George A. Schiller, Misses Adele Ritchie, Alice Gentle, Margery Pearson, and Louise Meyers.

"Blackbirds" is the title of a new three-act comedy by Harry James Smith, now running at the Lyceum Theatre. It serves as a joint starring medium for Mr. H. B. Warner and Miss Laura Hope Crews, who appear respectively as the Hon. Nevil Trask and Leonie Sabatsky, a pair of clever schemers, who plan to rob a rich family whose acquaintance they have formed whilst crossing the ocean. Under assumed names they become the guests of their intended victims. The woman is bent on stealing a fabulously expensive Persian prayer rug, and the man intends to obtain money for acting as an agent in bringing about a marriage between the daughter of the house and his fictitious brother, who is supposed to be a member of the English mobility. Leonie is uncommonly superstitious, however, and her conscience is stricken when she learns, through an interview with a religious old grandmother, that the rug she covets has been used for devotional purposes, and the theft of which will bring disaster to those whom the thief loves. This consideration gives her pause, and she is supposed to reform, but not until she has helped her confederate to escape as the police are entering the house to arrest him for a crime committed in London. Although the play is interesting, the suspense being well maintained, it is decidedly theatrical and far-fetched. It is made plausible, however, by the admirable acting of the principals. Mr. Warner may almost claim to be a specialist in stage criminality, after distinguishing himself as a safe-cracker in "Alias Jimmy Valentine," and winning success as another sort of "crook" in the play under notice. Miss Crews gives an excellent portrayal of Trask's partner in crime, and other characters are well represented by Mme. Matthilde Cottrelly, Miss Ethel Winthrop, Miss Ada Dwyer, Mr. Sydney Valentine, and Mr. James Bradbury.

NEW YORK, Jan. 22.—"Fine Feathers," a play in four acts by Eugene Walter, is the current attraction at the Astor Theatre. The cast includes Rose Coghlan, Robert Edeson, Wilton Lackaye, and Max Figman. Both the opening and the closing scenes are enacted in the dark. Bob Reynolds, who earns a moderate salary, occupies a bungalow on Staten Island, which he is anxious to own. John Brand, who went to school with him, and is now a prosperous business man, offers him a large sum of money if he will pass an inferior kind of cement which Brand intends to use in building a large water dam. Reynolds refuses, but his wife is tired of being poor, and enters into a secret understanding with Brand to influence her husband, after telling him that he is a fool not to accept the offer. Reynolds remains firm, however, until he is confronted with the alternative of losing his wife, and then he yields. Five years later, Reynolds is living in luxury, but is beginning to reap the consequences of his sin. Threatened with exposure and ruin, he drinks heavily and accuses Brand of being the cause of his downfall. There is a bitter quarrel, but Brand finally agrees to provide the money Reynolds requires. Mrs. Reynolds realises that the act of dishonesty which she prompted her husband to commit has brought them nothing but misery, and, rejoicing that the danger is past, they agree to do better in future when they learn that the dam built of the inferior cement has been swept away, and the lives of an entire community have been destroyed. Reynolds is stricken with remorse, and in a thrilling scene he prepares his wife for what is to come. He goes to the telephone and rings up the police station, directing that an officer be sent to the house at once. The electric lights go out, a pistol shot is heard, and the wife falls prostrate with an agonising moan. The play is admirably acted, and has been well received.

"The Conspiracy," a drama of New York life, in three acts, has scored a success at the Garrick Theatre. "John Roberts," named as the author, is said to be Robert Baker, a New York newspaper man, who has not written anything previously for the stage. The "white slave" traffic is the theme of the play, and the central character is Margaret Holt, who has been a victim of the traffic, and who kills the leader of a gang of criminals whilst they are plotting against her brother. Then she engages herself as secretary to Winthrop Clavering, a writer of detective stories. He dictates an account of the murder, and the girl betrays herself whilst she is writing it. At first he is disposed to hand her over to the police, but she persuades him to co-operate with her in capturing the other members of the gang. This is accomplished after a fight in the dark, and Margaret receives an offer of marriage from a sympathetic newspaper man. The play is exciting, the plot being unfolded in a plausible way. There is plenty of "local colour," and the various characters are faithfully represented. Miss Jane Grey as Margaret, Mr. John Emerson as Clavering, and Mr. Francis Byrne as the reporter play their parts exceedingly well.

"The Spy," a drama, in three acts, has been well received at the Empire Theatre. This is the play that bears the title of "The Turning Point" in London, but the original French version was called "La Flambée," and was written by Henry Kistemaeckers. At the Empire Theatre the principal parts are splendidly acted by Miss Edith Wynne Matthison, Mr. Cyril Keighley, and Mr. Julian L'Estrange. Miss Vera Finlay and Mr. Edgar Norton add a touch of light comedy, and Mr. Ernest Stallard has an important rôle.

"Cheer Up," a farce in three acts, by Mary Roberts Rinehart, was recently produced by Mr. Cecil B. De Mille at the Harris Theatre. The scene is laid at a health resort in the mountains, and the fun is created by gathering under one roof several persons who, for reasons of their own, are anxious to avoid one another. The chief complication is caused by the terms of the will of the sanatorium's former proprietor, whose grandson and heir must take possession of the place at a certain hour. The latter not only has to contend with the difficulty of a raging snowstorm, but is the hero of a runaway match with the daughter of an irate parent who is staying at the sanatorium.

"Eva," a musical play in three acts, the American version of which was written by Glen Macdonough, while the music was composed by Franz Lehar, has had a short run at the New Amsterdam Theatre. The German original was written by MM. Willmer and Bodansky. The story deals with the pursuit of Eva by Octave Flaubert, the proprietor of a Belgian glass factory. The factory hands have "adopted" Eva, and when they decide that Flaubert is trying to ruin the girl, they form into an angry mob, and in order to pacify them Flaubert declares that his intentions are honourable. Eva disappears when she finds that he is merely deceiving her, and when Flaubert meets her again she is employed by a Paris milliner. Being decked out in finery, however, which she has merely assumed for the time being, Eva creates the impression of being a young woman of easy virtue, until she makes it plain that she is nothing of the kind. Flaubert has found it impossible to forget her, and it is indicated that he is no longer actuated by base motives, but means to marry her. The music is delightful, the most popular numbers being a languorous waltz, "Love is a Pilgrim," a quartet called "The Starlight Guards," and a duet entitled "Cinderella." Miss Sallie Fisher as Eva was sincere and charming, her singing delighting the audience exceedingly. Miss Alma Francis as Pipsi Paquerett, Mr. Walter Percival as Octave Flaubert, and Mr. T. J. McGrane as Larousse were very good in their respective rôles. The play was beautifully produced by Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger.

Mr. Charles Frohman is about to produce at the Lyceum Theatre a play called "The New Secretary." This is an adaptation, by Cosmo Gordon-Lennox, of a French comedy, entitled "Le Cœur Disposé." The leading parts will be played by Miss Marie Doro and Mr. Charles Cherry.

Mr. Brander Matthews, professor of dramatic literature at Columbia University, and Mr. Charles Klein, the well-known playwright, were recently called to testify in proceedings brought against Messrs. David Belasco and William C. De Mille for infringement of copyright in producing a sketch called "In 1999." It appeared that the plaintiff had written a sketch called "The Woman of To-morrow; or, One Hundred Years From Now." The defendants admitted that the two sketches were somewhat similar, but Professor Matthews, as an expert, testified that coincidences are not unusual. He cited that an idea came to Mr. H. Rider Haggard months after Mr. F. Anstey had brought out a story based upon a similar idea.

"I have been going to the theatre forty-five years," said the professor, "and in all that time I do not believe I have seen more than a dozen situations deliberately 'borrowed' by one production from another. Similarities—yes, many of them—and necessarily so, for, given certain problems to deal with, the experienced author and playwright will develop them along certain well-recognised lines. Individuality shows where the author's so-called philosophy of life is brought to the surface."

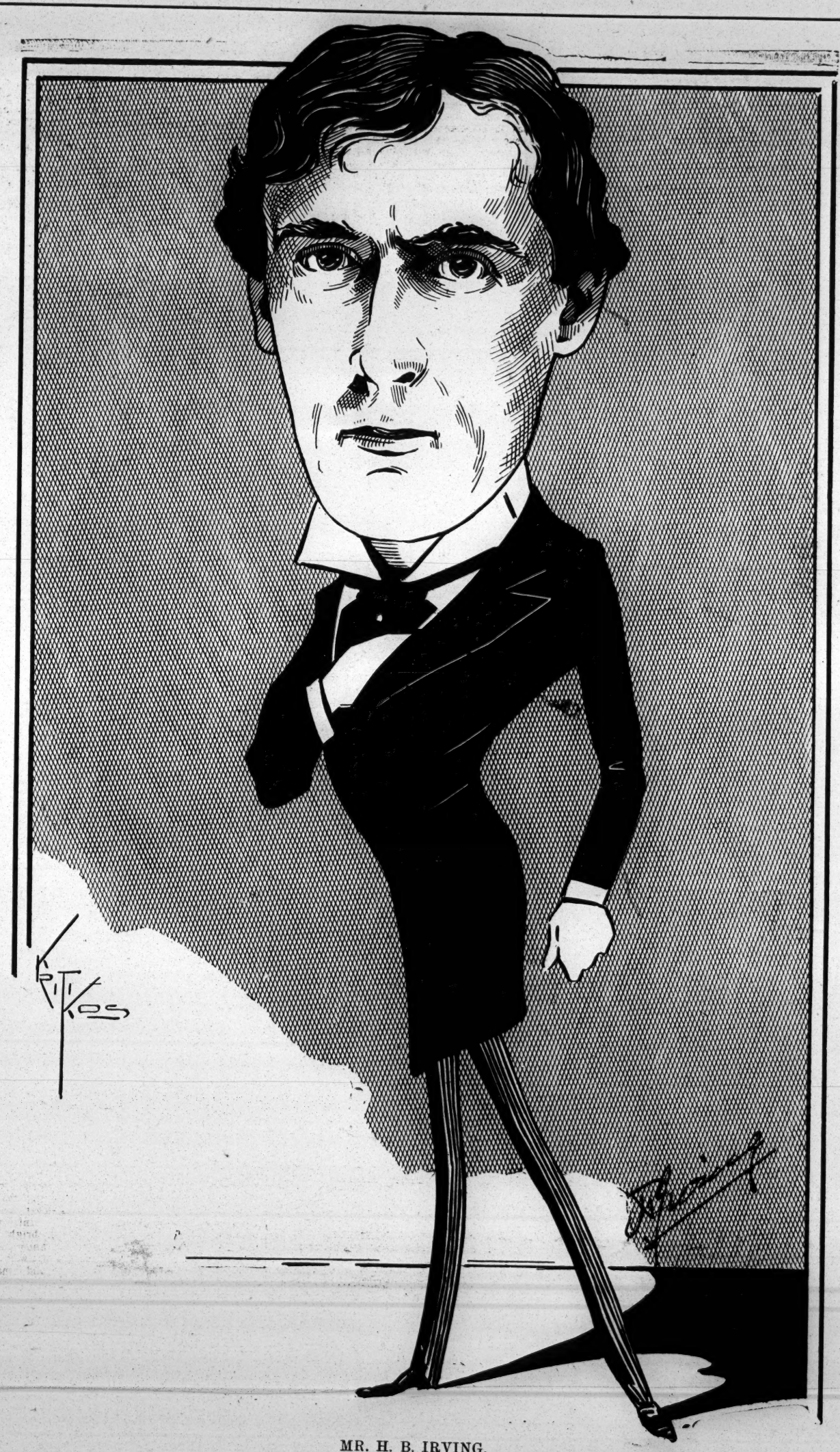
Mr. Klein testified that the idea of the "triangle" in the drama—the married pair and the outsider, woman or man—is an idea as old as the drama itself, but its treatment is along more "proper" lines nowadays.

Mr. Francis Wilson, the comedian, has written a three-act comedy called "The Spiritualist," which he will shortly produce at one of the Broadway theatres.

"'Way Down East" has been revived for a fortnight at the Broadway Theatre. Although this play was originally produced over fifteen years ago, its popularity is remarkably well preserved, and it is still making money for Mr. William A. Brady.

Ford's Theatre, in Washington, where President Lincoln was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth on April 14, 1865, is about to be demolished. Immediately after the shooting of Lincoln, the Government authorities took possession of the building, and it was subsequently used as a storehouse. A remarkable coincidence occurred on June 9, 1893, when the body of the famous American actor, Edwin Booth, was interred in Baltimore, as the building collapsed on that very day, and several persons were killed. The coincidence lay in the fact that it was Edwin Booth's brother who assassinated Lincoln. "Our American Cousin," with Laura Keene as Florence Trenchard, was the attraction at Ford's Theatre when the tragedy occurred. The cast is often reprinted in the American papers, and the only name to be found there that is familiar to the present generation is that of W. J. Ferguson, who was appearing until quite recently on the local stage. He was call boy at Ford's Theatre in 1865, and on the night of the tragedy was cast for the part of Lieutenant Vernon, R.N.

Miss Mathilde Brandt, from the Berlin Little Theatre, made her American début at the Irving Place Theatre on the 17th inst., appearing in a comedy from the French, entitled, "My Friend Teddy." The play was written by MM. André Rivoire and Lucien Besnard. The hero is a wealthy American, who falls in love with Mme. Morel, wife of a French Senator, and after a period of disappointment finally wins her.



MR. H. B. IRVING.

The worthy son of an illustrious sire, he has many of his father's best qualities. He is a scholarly and acute essayist, and is specially interested in the study of crime.

"TANTALIZING TERPSICHORE."

Dancing Comedy Episode, Written by E. and H. Gordon Clifford, Produced at the Court Theatre, Brighton, on Jan. 27.

Timothy ..... Mr. Sid Cotterell
Ronald Studyso ..... Mr. Owen Stirling
Terpsichore ..... Miss Violet Hope

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Ronald Studyso, a law student, has been placed in chambers by a stern father, who engages a manservant, Timothy, to look after him. Timothy, once an English waiter in a Parisian hotel, has, like his master, strong inclinations towards the fair sex. Ronald, tired of musty books, Faust-like, would discard learning for love. Through the medium of a vision, Terpsichore, Goddess of the Dance, appears before him; as though from the clouds. She dances, and Ronald becomes enamoured of her, and the pair sit down to dinner together, being waited upon by the astonished and mirthful Timothy. Ronald boldly declares his love to Terpsichore, but the tantalizing beauty suddenly leaves him.

Mr. Sid Cotterell gave a very amusing impersonation of Timothy, and evoked many a hearty laugh with his quaint humour. Mr. Owen Stirling made an earnest and ardent lover, and sang "With you alone" in artistic style. Miss Violet Hope captivated the audience with her very graceful dancing.

"THE LADIES OF BAGHDAD."

This Oriental comic opera in two acts, written and composed by Arthur Stanley Gill, was produced at the Nottingham Mechanics' Large Hall on Monday last. The story is coherent, and the plot, though slight, may be considered to be sufficient. Prince Ahmed, son of the Caliph Haroun-al-Raschid, has been recently married to a lady who, it is rumcured by intriguers, was not an "honest lady" at the time of her marriage. Disguised as mendicants, both the Caliph and his son attend a feast, and learn to their joy that in reality the Prince's wife is a good woman, and the opera ends with renewed rejoicings. This story has proved sufficient to string together a series of excellent situations and delightful pictures.

The music is tuneful, and some of the numbers are catchy. The cast and chorus are members of the Malinche Amateur Operatic Society, and their rendering of the music reflects great credit upon their hard-working and capable conductor Mr. H. G. Carter, whilst the superior quality of the dancing, especially of Miss Constance Howard, demonstrates the enthusiasm and ability of Mme. Maud Bolton, the dancing mistress. Mr. Percy W. Hobson as the Caliph mixes the dignity of the East with the levity of comic opera in just the exact proportions to be successful, whilst as Prince Ahmed Mr. Albert Farnsworth does good work. Mr. Harry Farnsworth, one of the drollest of comedians, has every opportunity as Tipbad to raise continual peals of laughter. Mr. Frank Lees, with limited opportunities, adds no little to the fun of the opera. Messrs. J. H. Lees, Stanley Martin, Digby Wootton, and Wilfred Robinson do well in the rôles entrusted to their care. Mme. Florence Farnsworth as Flutter-of-Frills, the gay intriguer, is the life and soul of the piece, singing her numbers delightfully. The proceeds are to be devoted to the Nottingham Cripples' Home.

One thousand poor of London's children assembled in the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway-road, last Saturday afternoon, at the invitation of the Playgoers' Club, and were regaled on oranges, meat pies, cakes, and sweets; and four thousand from Hoxton, under the care of Mr. A. F. Spencer, were entertained at the pantomime in the Britannia Theatre. Mr. and Mrs. Pett Ridge were present at the Marlborough Theatre and superintended the seating of the children, and Mr. Will Sparke, honorary treasurer of the Playgoers' Club, also rendered kindly assistance.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Sir Herbert Tree, before starting for Russia, promised definitely to preside at the annual supper of the Actors' Association on Friday, and to be at the meeting on the following Tuesday. Lady Tree, who is away, will be back on Monday. As so many rumours are current that Sir Herbert will not be back from Russia in time for the dinner, we are specially asked to make this statement.

To the annual ball of the Actors' Association, which, as already mentioned, will be held on Friday, at the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, the following are bringing parties:—Sir George and Lady Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Maude, and Miss Margery Maude, Miss Marie Löhr, Mr. Val Prinsep, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. and Mrs. Hayden Coffin, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Miss Clara Jecks, Miss Elsie Spain, Mrs. Carl Rosa, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Workman, Miss Violet Essex, Mr. and Mrs. Fisher White, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Webster, Mr. and Mrs. William Devereux, Miss Norah Kerin, and Miss Helen Cunningham.

Miss Ellen Terry has written an appreciation of the Russian Ballet, to accompany a series of drawings by Miss Pamela Colman Smith, which Messrs. Sidgwick and Jackson will shortly publish.

Mr. Edmund Payne will end his long engagement with Mr. George Edwardes when "The Sunshine Girl" finishes its run a few weeks hence at the Gaiety, and will then take a holiday, after which he may go into management on his own account.

Mr. James Welch will present, for the first time in England, at Harrogate, on Monday, Feb. 24, the three-act farce, by Mary Roberts Rinehart and Avery Hopwood, called "Seven Days," which has been successful in America. The cast will include, besides Mr. Welch, Mr. Vivian Gilbert, Mr. James Lindsay, Mr. H. Lempriere Pringle, Mr. J. H. Brewer, Mr. H. Agar Lyons, Miss Audrey Ford, Miss Marie Hemmingway, Miss Athene Seyler, and Miss Ada Blanche.

Mr. Weedon Grossmith will shortly produce at the Globe Theatre a three-act farce by T. Herbert Lee, a new author, entitled "Ask Questbury." The action is laid in London, in the rooms of a wealthy bachelor, who will be represented by Mr. Grossmith, who has secured Mr. Fred Kerr to produce the piece, and has already engaged Miss Maude Cressall and Miss Daisy Thimm for parts in it.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier's cast of "Trust the People," at the Garrick, on Thursday, includes, besides himself, Mr. John McNally, Miss Barbara Gott, Mr. H. Perceval Clark, Mr. Frank J. Arlton, Mr. W. S. Hartford, Mr. W. Herbert, Miss Edith King, Miss Margaret Boyd, Mr. Clifford Heatherley, Mr. Herbert Woodward, Mr. Thomas N. Weguelin, Mr. Kenyon Musgrave, Mr. Richard Neville, Mr. Herbert Bunston, Mr. Thomas Sidney, Mr. Archibald McClean, Mr. Cedric Hardwicke, Miss Viva Birkett, and Miss Marjorie Waterlow.

The play has in its list of *dramatis personæ* a Prime Minister, a Secretary of State for Wales, a President of the Board of Labour, and a Chief Government Whip, and includes an exciting election scene. The action passes partly in London and partly in Lancashire, the hero being a Lancashire man who has risen to Cabinet rank by dealing with the labour question. The date of the piece is "The Future, 19—."

Miss Annie Parker (Mrs. Edwin Drew) died on the 24th ult. at the Great Northern Hospital, London, in her sixty-first year. For nearly two years she had been suffering from an internal trouble, and on Christmas Eve she was removed to the hospital. On New Year's Eve an operation was performed, and for some days she seemed progressing, though slowly, but she caught cold, and, being too weak to bear the coughing which resulted, painlessly ended her life.

Born at Brighton, Mr. Nye Chart took her as a pupil, and made her the child-actress of his theatre. Among others who helped her was Mme. Celeste. At an early age Miss Parker was married to John Harris Valda, the painter, and left Brighton for London, where she sat to many painters of the period, as her head and face were good. She continued studying for the stage, and played many parts in town and country. She became a widow, and on Jan. 22, 1882, was married to Mr. Edwin Drew. She was the Mary Queen of Scots in the late Augustus Harris's procession of British Queens at Drury Lane Theatre, and on Aug. 1, 1887, was chosen to represent the unfortunate Queen in the first and only tableau of her life and death, on the site of Fotheringay Castle, on the three hundredth anniversary of the funeral of Mary. Latterly she went in for film-picture acting. Miss Parker is buried in Islington Cemetery, East Finchley.

Mr. C. I. Coltson asks us to acknowledge for the Actors' Benevolent Fund the receipt of £7 4s. from Mr. J. Forbes-Robertson, collected by means of his autograph, and also 12s. 6d. from Mr. C. H. Workman obtained by similar means. The postal orders that Sir Herbert Tree daily receives for his autograph are at once sent on to Mr. Coltson.

Mr. Martin Harvey, who has not visited Aberdeen for two years, has been playing this week to full houses at His Majesty's Theatre. On Monday he revived for the first time since its original run "The World and His Wife," from the Spanish of Echegaray, the reception of which was most enthusiastic. On Wednesday and Thursday "Œdipus Rex" was played to crowded audiences, which included a large number of well-known figures of academic and county society, as well as a large contingent of undergraduates of both sexes. Mr. Harvey, with great regret, has been obliged to postpone for a little while the Reinhardt production of "Hamlet"; the preparation of the mounting and the scheme for adapting ordinary theatres to its use is proving rather an exacting task.

The late Mr. Van Biene left the following offspring:—Rachel van Biene (née Rachel de Solla), widow; Joseph van Biene (eldest son); Eva Stromberg (née Eva van Biene), his only daughter; Edward van Biene, his second son; and Beneit van Biene, his third son.

Mrs. Seymour Hicks—better known as Miss Ellaline Terriss—has just purchased the long lease of No. 23, Berkeley-square, which was formerly the residence of the present Duke of Sutherland. Miss Terriss has bought the house as a private residence.

The latest convert to the "triple bill" is Mrs. Sherwood, the wife of the stage carpenter at Dunfermline Opera House, who has given birth to two boys and a girl.

Mr. Arthur Chudleigh will shortly produce at the Comedy Theatre an adaptation, in three acts, by Miss Cicely Hamilton, of Mr. Edgar Jepson's novel, "The Lady Noggs," under the title "Lady Noggs, Peeress." The title-part will be played by Miss Mary Glynne; the Countess Karskovitch will be represented by that ever-charming actress, Mrs. Saba Raleigh; Mr. Liston Lyle will appear as Lord Errington; and Mr. Evan Thomas as the secretary, Mr. Borrodaile. Miss Mary Mackenzie will be the agreeable governess, Miss Caldecot.

The Boy Scouts before enjoying the matinée of "Drake" at His Majesty's on Friday, will muster in Trafalgar-square, and march to the theatre, where the company and band will generously give their services for the good cause.

Mr. Herbert Williams, who has just concluded a most successful pantomime season as Mrs. Crusoe at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, rejoins Messrs. W. and F. Melville to play the comedy part in their forthcoming production of "The Indian Mutiny," at the Prince's.

"Ready Money" will be withdrawn from the New Theatre on March 1 in order to fulfil on or about March 3, a contract for the production of Mr. George Broadhurst's comedy "Bought and Paid For."

The report of the directors of the Portsmouth Theatres, Ltd., states that the profit on working of the three theatres has amounted for the year to £9,671 8s. 8d. After payment of management expenses, interest on debentures, preference share dividend for the year, and interim dividend on ordinary shares to June 30, there remains a balance of £2,438 19s. 8d. available for final dividend on ordinary shares. Out of this sum the directors recommend the payment of the usual balance dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, less income tax, which will absorb the sum of £1,318 6s. 8d., the appropriation of the sum of £343 1s. 5d. to the reserve fund, making this fund up to £6,000, the appropriation of the sum of £102 6s. to the extraordinary renewals fund, making this fund up to £1,800, and that the balance of £675 5s. 7d. be carried forward to next account.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard opened his eighth spring season at the Crystal Palace Theatre, on Monday, with that romantic play, "The Monk and the Woman," capitally performed by Mr. Fredk. Melville's company, direct from its long and successful run at the Lyceum Theatre. The powerful but not too sensational situations of the drama, and its lofty sentiments, appealed very strongly to the delighted audience. Mr. Ronald Adair was admirably adapted to the very exigent part of the young monk, Paul. His telling voice gave full effect to his many long speeches, and he was well supported by an excellent company.

Mr. Charles Hawtrey's successful production, "General John Regan," at the Apollo Theatre, will be preceded on Monday, Feb. 10, by "A Little Fowl Play," in which the popular manager recently appeared at the Coliseum.

Apart from its artistic interest, Ibsen's play, "The Pretenders," which is to be produced at the Haymarket on Feb. 13, should have a strong personal interest for the English public. Though the piece has never before been acted in this country, Sir Henry Irving contemplated putting it into rehearsal and playing Bishop Nicholas himself; and he had cast his two sons, Mr. Laurence and Mr. H. B. Irving, for the parts of Skule and Hakon, the two strong men who are rivals for the throne of Norway. Now, after the lapse of many years, Mr. Laurence Irving will be seen in the part his father originally intended him to play.

It is interesting, too, to note that Professor Reinhardt, now so well known in England as a producer, played Bishop Nicholas—the sinister figure that so strongly appealed to Irving—when the play was revived at the Neues Theater, Berlin, in October, 1904. The critics said "he gave a wonderful performance of a subtly wicked ecclesiastic." Mr. William Haviland will play Nicholas in Mr. Frederick Harrison's production.

The revival will be produced by Mr. E. Lyall Swete and the music composed by Mr. Norman O'Neill. The scenery has been painted by Mr. Joseph Harker from drawings by Mr. S. H. Sime, who has also designed the costumes.

The Actors' Orphanage has lost a sincere friend and most generous benefactor by the death of the Rev. Arthur Brinckman, who passed away at St. Saviour's Hospital on Tuesday morning after a short illness. Mr. Brinckman subscribed a sum of £30 per annum to the Fund from its inception, and for some years served on the executive committee, the meetings of which he attended regularly up to December last. He was always ready to do anything to promote the interests of the charity, and undertook the duties of Hon. Treasurer in the absence of Mr. Aubrey Smith.

The F. R. Benson company will open their four weeks' season at the Coronet Theatre on Monday next, when "Henry the Fifth" will be given, with incidental music arranged by Dr. Vaughan Williams. On Tuesday evening "Antony and Cleopatra"—one of Shakespeare's greatest but least-known plays—will be staged, the production being the same as that used by Mr. Benson when he revived the play some fifteen years ago. The beautiful music of Herr Michael Balling will again be used, and the title-rôles will be played by Mr. Benson and his leading lady, Miss Dorothy Green.

A number of Belfast charities and organisations will benefit under the will of the late Mrs. Jane Warden, who died on Oct. 30 last at Belfast. Her bequests amount to £2,500 and are apportioned as follows:—To the Royal Victoria Hospital, £250; to the Protestant Orphan Society for the counties of Antrim and Down, the Belfast Charitable Institution, the Kinghan Mission to the Deaf and Dumb, and the Society for Home Mission Work for the Blind, Cliftonville, £200 each; to the Forster Green Consumptive Hospital, the Home for Cripples, Bangor, the Mater Infirmorum Hospital, and the Ulster Hospital for Women and Children, £150 each; to the Belfast Society for the Destitute Sick, the Belfast Maternity Hospital, the Sailors' Home, Corporation street, Dr. Barnardo's Ever Open Door, Great Victoria-street, and the Workshops for the Blind, £100 each; to the Samaritan Hospital, the Gleaners' Union Missionary Fund of St. Thomas's Church, Lisburn-road, and the Salvation Army (for work in Belfast), £50 each.

Mrs. Warden has also left £200 to the Royal General Theatrical Fund, and has directed that each bequest shall be applied by the body or institution to which it is bequeathed in the furtherance of its benevolent or charitable purposes only, and be not applied in the purchase of land or buildings, or in the erection or alteration of buildings.

Mr. Acton Bond has been made Professor of Elocution and Diction at the Royal Academy of Music, and Director of the Dramatic Class in succession to the late Mr. Richard Temple. Mr. Bond's work in connection with the British Empire Shakespeare Society is well known; and his experience will shortly be employed at the academy in the production of a Shakespearean and a modern play.

"The Mormon and His Wives" will figure in the bill at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, next week. Mr. Oswald Cray will play the principal part, and will be supported by a company including Mr. David Blair, Mr. William H. Burton, Mr. Ernest A. Duval, Miss Sybil Hare, Miss Mamie Reindeer, and Miss Aimee Grattan-Clyndes.

"The Chocolate Soldier" is to be the attraction next week at the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, where it will be played by Mr. Philip Michael Faraday's company from the Lyric Theatre, London. The company will include Miss Pearl Ladd, Miss Courtice Cheal, Miss Mabel Crouch, Mr. Harry Arnold, Miss Rubie Leslie, Miss Lilian Major, Mr. James Davis, and Mr. Leo Sheffield. The orchestra will be under the direction of Mr. Charles Bunz.

Mr. W. W. Kelly is arranging to give, at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, on Tuesday, Feb. 18, a special matinée on a very large scale in aid of the Liverpool Theatrical Gala Fund.

Mr. Matthew Montgomery's attraction at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, next week is "A Fatal Crown." Mr. Montgomery made this engagement with the object of discovering whether a play of the true historical type, involving the appearance of famous figures of the past, is likely to find favour. Miss Annie Bell will appear as Lady Jane Grey.

Miss Gertrude Kingston's cast for "The Arbour of Refuge," at the Little Theatre on Tuesday includes Mr. Bertram Forsyth, Miss Madge McIntosh, Mr. David Hallam, Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. Edward Rigby, and Mr. Scott Craven. "Three," which follows, will be played by Miss Kingston, Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. Scott Craven, Mr. David Hallam, Mr. R. C. Harcourt, and Miss Joan Temple.

Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry returned on Monday to the part of Queen Elizabeth in "Drake" at His Majesty's Theatre. In her absence the rôle has been well sustained by Miss Alice Phillips. "Drake" reaches its 175th performance on Saturday.

The Rehearsal Company will appear in a dramatic reading of Gilbert's "Palace of Truth," at the Passmore Edwards' Settlement to-morrow. The cast includes Misses Alice Esden, Nell du Maurier, Enid Marshall, Elaine Goode, Dorothea Moss, and Messrs. Clive Currie, H. B. Waring, Percy Baverstock, Leslie Paget, Benedick Butler, C. E. Fletcher, and Wilfred Stephens.

"Jack Horner" at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, still continues to prove very much to the liking of the Mersey-side public. The ready wit and the oily drollery of Mr. Ernie Mayne, the blithe spiritedness of Mr. Fred Allandale, the characteristic cleverness of Miss Maidie Scott, the vim and jollity of Miss Lily Morris, the charm and daintiness of Miss Daisy May, are all telling what may be described as the tale of success, and at both afternoon and evening performances large houses are the rule.

The Stratford Musical Festival will be held early this year, the competitions starting on Saturday, March 1, and continuing during the following week. To-day is the closing day for entries. Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein and Mr. Landon Ronald will distribute the prizes after the festival.

Mr. Robert Courtneidge is actively rehearsing "Oh! Oh! Delphine" at the Shaftesbury, and has added to the cast Miss Nan Stuart, Mr. Harry Welchman, Mr. Fred Leslie, and Mr. Courtice Pounds, who will play a comic Colonel.

Messrs. Walter and Frederick Melville will revive at the Prince's on Wednesday Mr. George Daventry's drama, "The Indian Mutiny," which was produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Burnley, on Dec. 26, 1892. Miss Dora Barton will play Chuz-na, Mr. Henry Lonsdale Nebu Singh, Mr. C. W. Standing Lieutenant Manley, Mr. F. C. Leicester the brother, and Miss Lilian Hallows Kate Ingleby.

Mr. Tom B. Davis has secured the provincial rights of "Where the Rainbow Ends," which will be withdrawn from the Garrick Theatre on Saturday night. This delightful play will tour the provinces in the autumn, prior to its re-production in London on Boxing Day.

Mr. Edwin T. Heys' company, in "Hindle Wakes," broke the record at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, during the fortnight season there, hundreds being turned away from every performance. A return visit has been arranged for Feb. 17.

Sir Frederic Cowen has resigned his position as permanent conductor of the Liverpool Philharmonic Society. Sir Frederic has held the position for 17 years, having succeeded in 1896 the late Sir Charles Halle.

Miss Hilda Antony and Mr. Owen Roughwood, who are at present appearing together in "Ready Money" at the New Theatre, were quietly married on Wednesday.

The Bishop of London has prohibited a performance of the Epiphany mystery play in the Church of St. Silas, Kentish Town. In a letter to the vicar, the Rev. G. Napier Whittingham, his lordship says he considers it undesirable that plays should be acted in a church.

Miss Daisie Irving wishes to thank her many friends for their kind inquiries and expressions of concern during her present illness, and to assure them of her deep appreciation of their interest. She is recovering rapidly, and hopes within a short time to be able to greet her friends in person.

Mr. John M. East was on Saturday presented with a handsome dressing-case by the members of the company on the termination of Mr. J. B. Howard's pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," which Mr. East produced at the Crystal Palace.

On Monday evening the pantomime, "Dick Whittington," at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, began its closing week. The students at the University were present in strong force, and their natural exuberance rather militated for a time against the enjoyment of the other members of the audience. Order was eventually restored, and the piece gave much enjoyment to those who had come prepared to see the spectacle in peace. The efforts of the members of the company, especially Mr. Tubby Edlin as Idle Jack, Miss Maud Esmond as Dick, Miss Rose Wylie as Alice, Mr. Eddy Foy's clever performance as the Cat, were much appreciated, and encores were frequent throughout the evening. During an interval a representative from the Students' Union presented Mr. P. L. Howat, the acting-manager, and Mr. Wilcox, the musical-director, with silver cigarette cases as a mark of the popularity of these gentlemen with all classes of the patrons of the house.

"DER ROSENKAVALIER."

Comedy for Music, in Three Acts, Libretto by Hugo von Hofmannsthal, Music by Richard Strauss, played for the First Time in England at Covent Garden Theatre, on Wednesday, Jan. 29.

Princess von Werdenberg.....Margarete Siems
Baron Ochs of Lerchenau .... Paul Knüpfer
Octavian ..... Eva von der Osten
Herr von Faninal ..... Friedrich Brodersen
Sophie ..... Claire Dux
Mistress Marianne Leitmetzer .... Elsa Julich
Valzacchi ..... Hans Bechstein
Annina ..... Anna Gura-Hummel
A Commissary of Police .... Ernst von Pick
Major-Domo of the Princess..Hermann Kant
Major-Domo of Faninal .... Georg Nieratzky
The Princess's Attorney .... Arthur Pacyna
Landlord ..... Denis Byndon-Ayres
A Singer ..... Frederick Blamey

Mr. Thomas Beecham's winter season at Covent Garden of opera and Russian ballet opened on Wednesday night, with a performance of Richard Strauss' comedy opera, "Der Rosenkavalier," to the libretto of M. Hugo von Hofmannsthal, given for the first time in this country. The opera was produced by Herr Hermann Gura, and is in three acts.

The action takes place in Vienna, and the opera, translated by Mr. Alfred Kalisch as "The Rose Bearer," was heard first at Dresden, on Jan. 26, 1911. The curtain rises on a bedroom scene in Princess von Werdenberg's house. The Princess is amusing herself with a youthful cavalier, Octavian by name. An urgent love scene is interrupted by the sound of voices outside, and the Princess, thinking her husband has returned unexpectedly, persuades Octavian to disguise himself in the clothes of her maid. The owner of the voice, however, happens to be the impecunious Baron Ochs, who is anxious to consult the Princess in regard to a proposed match with Sophie, the daughter of a vulgar millionaire. There is a realistic little toilet scene, at which the supposed maid assists, and is ogled by the Baron. Octavian becomes the Baron's rose cavalier—that is to say, he is entrusted with the delivery to Sophie of the rose which the Baron duly dispatches as a gage d'amour. Of course, the inevitable happens, and Octavian and Sophie fall madly in love with each other. Tender passages between the pair are interrupted by the arrival of the Baron, and there is a tremendous rumpus as the result of Octavian having slightly wounded his rival. A ruse, of which Sophie is the originator, finally sets matters straight. Octavian is persuaded to assume once more the rôle of the maid, and to make an assignation with the Baron. At the critical moment the door is burst open, and this old roué—discovered under compromising circumstances—is given his congé. Such is the story, and the music is quite in the German manner. The music is very fluent, but the long libretto would bear cutting, with advantage. The trio is very fine in the third act; also the duet, which follows the trio, where the silver rose, at length having found its just resting-place, the lovers, Sophie and Octavian, slowly leave the stage. Also, there are some beautiful musical passages, where the Princess, on parting from her young lover, ruminates upon the possible future. But it recalls the music of "Elektra." The performance was admirable; the presence of three of the members of the original cast did much to secure that excellence. The singing of Mme. Margarete Siems was very fine, and her acting dignified as the Princess. Miss Eva von der Osten gave great satisfaction as Octavian, and the quasi-serving maid. Miss Dux played Sophie's part and sang admirably in the trio before-mentioned. Mr. Knüpfer, who is, of course, well known at Covent Garden, was a first-rate Baron Ochs. Excellent, also, was Mr. Broderson as Herr von Faninal. Mr. Hans Bechstein's Valzacchi was very creditable, and Mme. Gura-Hummel acted and sang well as Annina. The minor parts were well sustained, and all was well rehearsed. The scenery was very beautiful, and Mr. Hermann Gura a most efficient stage-manager. Mr. Beecham conducted, and there was a large attendance, including Princess Henry of Battenberg, King Manuel, the Duke and Duchess of Manchester, the Duchess of Marlborough, the Duchess of Rutland, Count Albert Mensdorff-Pouilly-Dietrichstein, the Marquis de Soveral, Lord and Lady Charles Beresford, Lady Maud Warrender, the Spanish Ambassador and his wife, the Chilian Minister, Mrs. Bradley Martin, the Countess of Lytton, Lady Cunard, Mrs. George Cornwallis-West, Lady Wolverton, Lady Chamberlayne, Lady Speyer, the Earl and Countess of Clarendon, Viscountess Ridley, Viscount and Viscountess Iveagh, Mr. Leopold de Rothschild, the Marquis and Marchioness of Anglesey, Lady Diana Manners, and Lady Cyntha Graham.

A laudable effort is being made by the British and Foreign Blind Association to raise a fund of £300 to cover the cost of "embossing" the whole of Shakespeare's plays in Braille, so that for the first time the complete works of the world's poet are to be put in the hands of the blind. Mr. Burford Delannoy, who is interested in the movement, has made a private appeal to members of the profession and others, and to date £79 14s. 9d. has been collected. The total falls short of the needed £300. Hence we quite cordially join in the appeal to our readers to subscribe. Any sums—large or small—will be gratefully acknowledged by the secretary of the British and Foreign Blind Association, if sent to him at 206, Great Portland-street, W. Amongst the present contributors are:—Mr. Albert Chevalier, £1 1s.; Mr. Robert Courtneidge, £15 15s.; Mr. James Bernard Fagan, £1 1s.; Mr. John Galsworthy, £2 2s.; Mr. Cyril Maude, £1 1s.; Sir A. W. Pinero, £5 5s.; Mr. J. Forbes Robertson, £1; Mr. Alfred Sutro, £1 1s.; Mr. G. Bernard Shaw, £5 5s.; Sir H. Beerbohm Tree, £5 5s.; and Miss Irene Vanbrugh, £2 2s.

A special committee of the London Shakespeare League, consisting of the Rev. Stewart Headlam (chairman), Lady Gomme, Mrs. C. C. Stopes, Dr. Israel Gollancz, Mr. William Poel, Mr. Holford Knight, and Mr. Allan Gomme (hon. secretary), has been formed for the purpose of arranging the erection of a tablet in St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, to the memory of the following Elizabethan actors, who are recorded in the parish registers to be buried there:—Will Somers, Henry VIII.'s jester (d. 1560); Richard Tarlton, Queen Elizabeth's famous clown and possibly Shakespeare's Yorick (d. 1588); James Burbage, the builder of the first English playhouse (d. 1597); Richard Burbage, the original impersonator of many of Shakespeare's characters (circa. 1618-19); Gabriel Spenser, William Sly, Richard Cowley, and others. It is estimated that the cost of the memorial will be upwards of £100, and all who are interested in the project are asked to contribute towards the amount. Subscriptions should be sent to Lady Gomme, 20, Marlborough-place, St. John's Wood, N.W. A meeting of the above society was held on Jan. 30, when a paper on James and Richard Burbage was read by Mrs. Stopes.

Little Mimi Yvonne, the child actress who is playing Peter in Charles Frohman's "Passers-By" company in America, has been presented by Mr. Frohman with a large doll dressed as Peter. Miss Yvonne is 5 years and 8 months old, and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Elliston.

"THE LINK."

Play, in One Act, by August Strindberg, Translated by Edwin Bjorkman. Produced by the Century Play Society, at the Arts and Dramatic Club, Clavier Hall, on Sunday evening, Jan. 26.

The Judge ..... Mr. Desmond Brannigan
The Pastor ..... Mr. David Hallam
The Baron ..... Mr. Leigh Lovel
The Baroness ..... Miss Octavia Kenmore
The Sheriff ..... Mr. George T. Greig
The Constable ..... Mr. W. F. Thomas
The Lawyer ..... Mr. Wilfred Stanford
Alexanderson ..... Mr. Rupert Harvey
Alma Jonsson ..... Miss Jess Dorynne
The Milk-maid ..... Miss Edith Carter
The Farm-hand ..... Mr. Henry Rousell
The Jurymen
Messrs. Claud W. Sykes, F. J. Sharp, John Beech, &c.

The Century Players, under the direction of Mr. Leigh Lovel and Miss Octavia Kenmore, gave, on Sunday evening last, at the Clavier Hall, the first performance in England of Strindberg's "The Link." Translated by Edwin Bjorkman, this long-drawn-out and often tedious one-act tragedy mainly concerns the separation case of an extraordinary pair, the Baron and Baroness Sprengel. The "link" of the title is the child of their unhappy marriage, and ere going into court the couple had agreed that there should be no recrimination, and that the mother was to have the care of the boy. Before the Judge, however, the Baron and Baroness soon start bickering and endeavouring to condone the accusations made by each against the other. Both, it seems, have been guilty of misconduct, and a certain Alexanderson, a farmer who had previously been unjustly fined for slandering his servant, is prepared to swear that he has been a witness of the Baroness's infidelity. Eventually the jury of peasants decide that two of their number shall be appointed guardians of the child, much to the dismay of the guilty and abnormal couple, the Baroness especially expressing her disgust at the "bringing up" her offspring will now have. Interesting and impressive in parts, the piece appeared to suffer from lack of rehearsal, but on the whole the players gave a very creditable performance. Miss Octavia Kenmore and Mr. Leigh Lovel acted with earnestness and considerable power the unthankful parts of the Baron and Baroness; Mr. Desmond Brannigan as the Judge, and Mr. George T. Greig as the Sheriff, Mr. David Hallam as the Pastor, Mr. Wilfred Stanford as the Lawyer, and Mr. Rupert Harvey as Alexanderson, all played their parts excellently.

In the long interval which preceded the staging of the fourth act from "Brand," Mr. William Burt, an excellent baritone, sang three or four songs with fine expression and feeling, and his contribution to the programme was a most enjoyable one. In C. H. Herford's translation in rhyming verse of "Brand," Miss Octavia Kenmore and Mr. Leigh Lovel were seen to much greater advantage than in "The Link." Miss Kenmore eloquently depicted the despair of the anguished mother, Agnes, and as Brand Mr. Lovel gave a very impressive impersonation.

"CRUSOE" AT THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

SECOND NOTICE.

"Defoe defied" is really the motto of any adaptor of the story of "Robinson Crusoe" for the purposes of pantomime, and though Mr. Fred S. Jennings in his version at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, gives the boys and girls glimpses of the real romance of the marooned Yorkshireman, he is nevertheless quite alive to the responsibilities of a pantomime librettist, and does his best to afford opportunities for the comedians, and to provide cues for funny interludes, without which any Christmas production would be quite a poor thing. The scenery, too, from the brush of Mr. Tom Pilbeam, has all the charm of imagination. In the deeps of the sea the artist has given rein to a vein of fancifulness, and in this he has been well assisted by Miss Ina Alston's ballet troupe, the Lyric Girls, who figure as dancing naiads and are backed by mermaids in pretty costumes of sea-green. This fascinating stage picture and ballet is the final one in the first part. In the second we get to the "Valley of Golden Palms," a retreat that has not only a tropical, but a "topical" significance, if we may judge by the numerous gags cracked. The incident of the discovery of Friday is preserved in its historic fulness, and the wedded happiness of Crusoe and Polly finds a fitting celebration in Crusoe's garden.

Since the opening night the fun generally has been worked up. Mr. Fred Bramham, who is alert and acrobatic in all his doings, appears as that famous pirate, Will Atkins, the stage ancestor of Mr. Barrie's James Hook in "Peter Pan." In the regulation pirate dress, dear to the youth of Great Britain, Mr. Bramham has a few serious moments when Will is plotting with Davy Jones for the destruction of all and sundry by shipwreck, but in the main—and on the main—he is sensitive to the promptings of fun, and has many humorous moments. "Follow the footprints in the snow" is one of his most successful numbers. Miss Ethel Hall as the adventurous hero is gay, dashing, and débonair, looking particularly smart, too, in her costumes. Her great success is the Feldman number, "Who were you with last night?" with the refrain of which the boys of Hammersmith raise the roof. Miss Vera Nixon makes an attractive Polly Perkins, and justifies the devotion of Robinson by her fascination of style. Messrs. Walker and Ewen, in the parts of Captain and Mate, introduce specialities which are humorously worked, and score a success in the duet, "Maloney." Miss Lucie Evelyn as Babs Crusoe amuses the house immensely in a pre-arranged interlude with a small policeman, who orders her off the stage, after the stage-manager has implored her in vain to come off. Miss Evelyn makes short work of bobby by carrying him off amid much laughter. Mr. Ernest Ball, who has produced the pantomime, under the direction of Mr. Wentworth Croke, the popular Lyric proprietor, sings in good style as Davy Jones, and Miss Lydia Bland makes a radiant figure of the Spirit of Adventure. Mr. Dan Lawley as Mrs. Crusoe plays the part on the broadly comic lines that may be accepted as pantomime tradition, and rouses much mirth in several scenes. Mr. Archie Royer is an acceptable Friday, and Mr. Ralph Hurley is effective as the Cannibal King. Miss Gertie Hall as Princess Florandra, Miss Beatrix Hunt as Nancy Lee, Miss Bessie Knight as Jack Tarre, and Miss Sylvia Young as the landlord of the Jolly Sailors, play the smaller parts adequately, and add to the success of Mr. Croke's fifth annual—a success that depends in no small degree on the mechanical effects by Geo. Dixon, the properties so deftly made by Fred Collins, the electrical effects by H. Shirley, and Miss Maud Cunningham's costumes. Mr. Ashley Richards, who has composed the lyrics and music, directs ably a full operatic chorus.

Miss Edith Delaney is making a big success in "The House That Jack Built," at the Theatre Royal, Bradford. In "The shepherdess of Devon" the charming young actress's well-trained voice is heard to great advantage, and Miss Delaney never fails to gain rounds of well-merited applause nightly for her vocal and acting efforts in this popular pantomime.

NEW PLAYS IN PICCADILLY.

The Lyceum Club in Piccadilly has seen many efforts by those of its members who aspire to dramatic authorship, but seldom has it witnessed a play of such excellent promise as that written by Mrs. A. C. Bunten and produced at her "At Home" on Tuesday evening. It is musical in character, and is entitled

"THE JAPANESE CURIO."

Frokuchi ..... Mr. Alexander Price
O Chry San ..... Miss G. Vander Beck
O Tomatan ..... Miss Ellen Robinson
A Priest ..... Mr. Joseph Ireland

Simple and unpretentious in style, the piece is founded on a novel idea, and possesses some melodious airs. The action of the play is laid at a time "before mirrors were known in Japan." It should really have been before lakes and rivers were known, if such a period can be conceived, for it is the reflection of various faces in a hand-mirror that disturbs the domestic bliss of Frokuchi and O Chry San, a young couple just home from their honeymoon. The mirror is unintentionally left in the house by a girl friend of the bride, and when the latter beholds her face in the glass she comes to the conclusion that she is looking at the picture of another girl who has stolen her husband's affections. Confronted with the mirror, Frokuchi, of course, sees his own visage, which he imagines is that of another man, and declares that it is the wife who is faithless, with the result that the newly-married pair decide to part. Along comes a Japanese priest and volunteers to act as mediator, but the mirror reveals only the countenance of the reverend father, who declares his intention of annexing the "portrait" to hang up in the temple. Fortunately O Tomatan has discovered her loss, and returns to claim her property and restore peace to the matrimonial hearth.

The little piece is embellished by some pretty lyrics. A duet for the bride and bridegroom, "Never speak of love again," is distinctly well written, and "Happiness is a bird of Paradise," sung by the young wife, is distinguished by delicate sentiment and graceful melody. The lady has also a dainty song in "Oh! lovely moonbeam." All were admirably rendered by Miss G. Vander Beck, who made a charming young wife. Mr. Alexander Price displayed the possession of a rich and cultivated baritone in the part of Frokuchi, singing particularly well in the duet, but spoke his lines in too sing-song a style. Miss Ellen Robinson acted in agreeable light comedy fashion as the frivolous O Tamatan, and though her intonation left something to be desired, she put plenty of animation into her numbers, "The powder puff" and "The mirror song," with a whistling refrain. The priest was jovially acted by Mr. Joseph Ireland, who is also gifted with a fine voice, as was proved by his singing of a laughing song. The authoress was heartily called at the end. It should be added that orchestral parts are being written by Mr. Charles A. Trew in view of the production of the little piece on the professional stage.

The programme was opened by an "Old Fashioned Dance," in which Queenie Geary and Jackie Marshall figured, and concluded with "A Gipsy Romance," a scena, by F. Lehar and Edgar H. Haines, in which Miss E. Marshall and Miss E. Robinson, attired respectively as a gipsy lad and his sweetheart, acted a lovers' quarrel and executed a clever variation of the Bacchanal.

"THORNS."

New Yiddish Drama, by A. Doniach, Produced at the Pavilion Theatre on Tuesday, Jan. 28.

Zipa ..... Madame B. Goldstein
Hoischne ..... Miss I. Fieldman
Mendel Ginsberg ..... Mr. Ludwig Satz
Miriam ..... Miss Sylvia
Michel ..... Mr. M. Brinn
Rischka ..... Mr. N. Hamburger
Chava ..... Madame Brinn
Manuel Gainsborough ..... Herr Maurice Moscowitz
Katie ..... Madame Blumenthal
Harold ..... Miss Sylvia
Mary ..... Madame Brinn
Donald Ditch ..... Mr. S. Goldenberg
Policeman, gentleman .... Mr. L. Radomsky
Postman ..... Mr. Tomianow
Henoch ..... Master J. Arbeiter

The "Drury Lane of the East" is now given over to drama, and other plays in Yiddish, and evidently supplies a long-felt want to the many Jewish-speaking residents in the neighbourhood. On Tuesday was produced and presented by Mr. Maurice Moscowitz, well known in his native Russia and also in America as an actor and producer, a new drama, by A. Doniach, entitled "Thorns." Dealing with the trials of a Russian Jew and his family, who flee from religious persecution, the play has some strong situations, and the many telling lines it contains appealed in no uncertain fashion to the wise men and women of the East, who acclaimed the drama most enthusiastically. Mendel Ginsberg, a pedlar, and his wife, Zipa, are living happily in Horsdisch, a small village in Russia, and on the best of terms with their Gentile neighbours. At the instigation of the Pristav there is a "pogrom," and Mendel, subjected to rough treatment, is compelled to escape with his wife, child, and brother-in-law, Michel, to England. In the second act, in the East End, the couple are now in very straitened circumstances. Their boy is seriously ill, and Mendel, remembering an old comrade whom he had frequently helped in Horsdisch, calls on him for assistance. This comrade, now known as Manuel Gainsborough, has become rich during his long stay in England, and lives in the West End. His second wife, Katie, a London-born Jewish factory girl, has a decided aversion from "foreign" Jews, which is shared by a Mr. Ditch, their landlord and a frequent visitor. Ditch, it is soon evident, is a lover of Katie's, and when Mendel calls to see his old comrade Katie contrives that her husband shall not admit Mendel. At the finish of the act there are angry words between Manuel and Ditch—a powerful and excellently acted scene. Mendel in the third act is poorer than ever. His boy is seriously ill. Michel, brooding over the loss of his bride, assassinated in the "pogrom" in Russia, has gone mad, and been removed to an asylum. Mendel decides again to call on Manuel, refusing to believe that the latter will not help him. Mendel is refused admittance by Katie; but Manuel, seeing him, brings him back and makes him sit down and recover a little. Katie, coming on the scene, loudly rebukes her husband for encouraging beggars, and the dying Mendel, not wishing to cause a quarrel, slips out unobserved. Manuel eventually accuses Katie of unfaithfulness, and she rushes out in a terrible rage. Picked up in the street, fainting, Mendel is brought back, and as the hastily-summoned doctor enters he dies.

The piece was excellently acted throughout, and it was not necessary to have a knowledge of Yiddish to properly appreciate the principal incidents. Mr. Maurice Moscowitz as the successful Manuel Gainsborough played with quiet impressiveness, and where necessary with emotional power. Mr. Ludwig Satz, Madame B. Goldstein, and Miss Ida Fieldman, as Mendel, Zipa, and the child, distinguished themselves, especially in the scene of domestic happiness in the first act, and their impersonations were finished and easy throughout. Another excellent performance was the natural Katie of Mme. Blumenthal; Mme. Brinn gave a capital portrayal of a giggling, artful servant; and the other parts were all satisfactorily sustained. The proceeds of Tuesday and Wednesday's performances were to be devoted to augmenting the funds of the Talmud Torah for girls, and a substantial sum should result.

MR. FORBES-ROBERTSON AT HULL

The final performance of Mr. Forbes Robertson's farewell week in Hull drew a full house to the Grand Theatre on Saturday. When the curtain fell after an impressive performance of "The Light that Failed" Mr. Forbes-Robertson was recalled many times. He acknowledged the enthusiastic demonstrations of the audience in a farewell speech. He said he had to thank most sincerely the theatre-going public of Hull for the way in which they had received the performances of his company, for the enthusiasm that had been displayed, and, more especially, for the appreciation shown, since it was only when he was followed with attention that an actor could do his best.

"I am not going," said Mr. Forbes-Robertson, "to dwell upon the fact this is my last appearance in your city, but I should like to say a few words from this stage. When I came here first as an actor, many years ago—more, indeed, than I like to dwell upon—things were very different from what they are to-day. Dramatists were few, there were few theatres in London, and the class of entertainment was very different. Of course I speak solely of the legitimate drama. The advance made is of a very gratifying character. Our plays are more ambitious, our dramatists are more numerous, actors and actresses are more careful, more effective, and are recruited from the educated classes. The dramatist has higher ideals. The ordinary love story of the melodrama is no longer sufficient. It has been proved over and over again that audiences are demanding plays of a more serious character. These tendencies have grown from year to year, and now we have a most interesting experiment being made everywhere. I mean in regard to the establishment of repertoire theatres in the great cities, bringing out the best of new actresses, actors, and dramatists. The repertoire theatre in Manchester has done a most admirable work. I venture to say that I hope Hull will also have a repertoire theatre. Such a theatre is a most valuable asset to the education of the public. Some people laugh at you when you talk about the educational influence of the stage, but it is perfectly obvious that the stage is a great educator. You might just as well say that a picture gallery, or high-class music, or a museum, is not an educational influence. The stage is quite on a level with these admirable institutions; but as with music, painting, and sculpture, the stage needs a certain amount of encouragement.

Mr. Forbes-Robertson went on to say that he remembered the time when, with the exception of "Hamlet," none of the plays he had presented in Hull that week would have had any hope of drawing audiences such as had gathered together during the week, and to him it was a gratifying thought that audiences were more exacting and expected more from actors and dramatists. He added that though he himself was retiring from the stage, his wife, Miss Gertrude Elliott, was not contemplating such a step, and he hoped in the not distant future Miss Elliott might find some suitable plays and bring them to Hull.

"For me," he concluded, "it is a serious event—this saying good-bye to a city which has always been so good to me over many years. It is a long time since first I had the honour of playing here; it was with the clever actress Mme. Modjeska—I don't think there are many here who can remember so far back as that.

"And now I can only say farewell, and thank you all from my heart for the kindness you have bestowed upon me, who have hitherto been your humble and obedient servant."

"THE LAND OF THE FREE."

Play in One Act by Bertha M. Graham. Produced at the Cosmopolis Theatre, on Monday, Jan. 27.

Mr. Hardacre ..... Mr. Ralph Hutton
Jenny ..... Miss Leah Bateman-Hunter
Clare Canninge ..... Miss Phyllis Relph
Mr. Romilly ..... Mr. Charles Vane

Slight in plot, but strong in purpose, Miss Graham's little play is a spirited effusion on the side of free labour, and brings under our notice Jenny, a female blackleg, her grandfather, Mr. Hardacre, who once lost his fortune by trying to fight the unions, and Mr. Romilly, a wholesale provision merchant, who, with Hardacre and Jenny, is forced to fly from a mob of strikers at the conclusion of the piece, which is of a protesting and propagandist nature, and argues earnestly in favour of the cause the authoress has at heart. The part of Clare Canninge, a Socialist strike-leader, was played with strong and deep feeling by Miss Phyllis Relph, who gave a very striking performance of an exacting part, and showed real power of emotional expression and much dramatic energy. Miss Leah Bateman-Hunter was bold, free, and spirited as Jenny, and acted with a spontaneous vivacity which made the part stand out distinctly. Mr. Charles Vane, who produced the piece, and Mr. Ralph Hutton were seen to good advantage in the rôles of Romily and Hardacre. "The Land of the Free" was followed by an arrangement, made by Miss Bateman (Mrs. Crowe), of Rossetti's well-known poem, "Sister Helen." As everyone is aware, the piece is a duologue between a revengeful woman and her little brother, while she kills a faithless lover by witchcraft, and the melting of a waxen figure. Before an effectively set scene, Miss Bateman-Hunter delivered the dreadful lines allotted to the remorseless Helen with tragic effect, and Miss Marie Goldie rendered excellent assistance as the little brother, Miss Phyllis Relph, concealed behind a curtain giving deep expression to the melancholy refrains of the poem. The entertainment concluded with John Kidd's play, "Restitution," now re-named "Restitution, Tout Court," and attributed to Mrs. Caleb Porter. In this, Miss Phyllis Relph showed decided ability as Peggy, Miss Bateman-Hunter was excellent throughout as Edith, and Mr. Robert Rendel gave a good reading of the rôle of Sebastian.

Much regret will be felt in pantomimical circles generally at the news of the death, after a long and painful illness, of Mrs. Florence R. Harding (Miss Florrie Compton), of 9, Reay-street, Widnes, which occurred on Saturday. The deceased lady, who was the wife of Mr. Bert Harding, the talented musical-conductor of the Widnes Alexandra Theatre, and formerly a prominent member of the orchestras connected with the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, and the Salford Hippodrome, died at the early age of twenty-six years. The deceased lady had been connected with the theatrical profession for twelve years, but was associated principally with pantomimes, in which she appeared under various managements. For the last eight years, however, she was a member of Mr. Jas. Kiddie's companies, and her last appearance was with Mr. Kiddie's pantomime, "Little Cinderella," at the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, in February, 1911. Mrs. Harding leaves a husband and a four-year-old daughter to bemoan her loss.

The funeral, which was a quiet one, was held on Wednesday afternoon at the Farnworth Cemetery, Widnes, the Rev. H. J. Gibbins (Vicar of St. Paul's, Widnes) officiating. The Widnes Alexandra Theatre orchestra, Messrs. T. Gibson, R. Broome, J. Coleman, F. Sankey, P. Wilson, and J. Gordon, acted as bearers. Amongst the beautiful wreaths received were those from Mr. James Kiddie (proprietor of the Widnes Theatre), Mr. and Mrs. J. Gar Kiddie, Mr. Frank Bray (manager and lessee of the Widnes Theatre), the Alexandra Theatre orchestra, and the stage and house staff.

MISS GERTRUDE ROBINS.

Versatility of an exceptional character is attached to the activities of Miss Gertrude Robins, the accomplished and engaging new heroine in the popular farce, "Officer 666," at the Globe Theatre. Beguiled by a transient foretaste of Spring, and an invitation to visit Miss Robins at her Buckinghamshire residence, a representative of this Journal found himself scaling the Chilterns one genial afternoon recently, and, ultimately, at his hostess's four-gabled house, invitingly perched some 700ft. above the sea-level.

"As a World traveller, you are doubtless accustomed to mountaineering, though, in view of the present slippery condition of the bridle-path, I should have warned you to have brought an alpenstock," laughed Miss Robins to the almost breathless visitor, as she greeted him at the garden gate. "Now I am sure you would like to see my farm pets, and country surroundings generally, before we enter the house"; and, this agreeable entertainment concluded, and ensconced in restful armchairs in the cosy drawing-room, the journalist persuaded his hostess to discourse upon personal matters.

"As you know, I lead a very active life, and my interests range from Small Farming and Aviation—yes, I have had two Biplane Gliders built for me—to the Art of the Marionette. I have written several successful one-act plays. My village comedy, 'Pot-Luck' (published by Messrs. Samuel French, Ltd.), originally played by the Buckinghamshire Players (a body of local amateurs which I organised), I afterwards produced at the Palace Theatre. In the cast were Miss Lydia Rachel and Messrs. Hubert Druce, Austin Melford, and Edward Rigby. The audience seemed to like this 'breath of Buckinghamshire in Shaftesbury-avenue': and 'Pot-Luck' is still successfully running in the provinces.

[Photo. by Elwin Neame

MISS GERTRUDE ROBINS.

"Speaking of the provinces, there is, I think, more than a grain of truth in the adage: 'What Manchester thinks to-day London does to-morrow,' for it was in Cottonopolis, at Miss Horniman's theatre, that my early plays were first produced. And I'm glad to say that London seems to have a happy knack of endorsing Manchester's verdict! Another friend to whom I am indebted is that charming actress, Miss Darragh, for during her amazingly artistic season at Manchester last year, she produced my Dutch play, 'Old Jan.'"

"My one-act play, 'Makeshifts,'" continued my fair hostess, "was presented before that clever play, 'Hindle Wakes,' at the Playhouse; and in book form it has already reached several editions. Messrs. Joseph Williams handle the amateur rights of this play, and its sequel, 'Realities'; and it has now been played over a thousand times in Great Britain, Australasia, and Canada, and is shortly to be presented in America by Miss Horniman's company. You may be amused to know that I recently bought 'The Leather Bottle.' No, not a play; it's a—pub!" smilingly explained Miss Robins: "a dear old-world hostelry that for centuries has been a traveller's joy upon a Buckinghamshire hillside. The licence expired on the day I took possession; but that doesn't mean," said Miss Robins, with a twinkle in her eye, "that there are no refreshments procurable!"

The visitor forthwith made a mental note.

"Have I leisure for any other occupation? Oh, yes! In the intervals between golf and gardening, acting, and my varied literary work, I contribute to a certain London Daily articles chiefly relative to Country Life."

"Now, tell me, please," remarked the visitor, "how you began your career."

"A few years ago I took Honours in Modern Languages at Oxford. My mother is German and my father Irish; and perhaps this blend tended to induce me, at an early age, to take life seriously. At the outset I thought I would take up one of the learned professions, but I discovered that for a woman to follow such a career the drawbacks of sex are strongly defined. I ultimately decided that the Theatrical profession offered a wider and fairer scope for a woman's activities. Hence it came about that, through the kind offices of my good friend, Miss Lillah McCarthy, I was introduced to the late Wilson Barrett, who engaged me to play in his Repertoire Company on tour. After useful 'schooling' in the provinces and playing lead in Wilson Barrett's last play, 'Lucky Durham,' I joined Mr. James Welch, and played in 'When Knights Were Bold' at Wyndham's. Subsequently I played lead with Mr. Granville Barker in his daring Anglo-Austrian 'Anatol' sketches at the Palace and the Little Theatre. I lately played Miss Irene Vanbrugh's part in 'Rosalind' upon the occasion of the latter's Command performance at Sandringham; and, now, as the heroine of that merry and clever farce, 'Officer 666,' at the Globe, I have my first experience of acting in an American production. And, after all, 'Variety is the Spice of Life,' and the pursuit of experience is the playwright's prerogative."

And as the visitor was motored down to the railway station by his charming and entertaining hostess, he reflected that she had, indeed, "played many parts."

"Dan, the Outlaw," Mr. Herbert Shelley's new four-act drama, was provisionally produced at the Vaudeville on Jan. 28.

"Paying Guests," a light comedy by Miss B. T. Sidgwick, who has already written successful plays, was given on Tuesday night at Crosby Hall by the Theatre in Eyre Company, for the benefit of the Invalid Children's Aid Association. The scene of the action was an old mansion, whose proprietor is obliged by circumstances to give his ancestral hall to a paying-guest scheme. Mr. Frederick Leigh, Mr. Clarence Derwent, Mr. Stewart Musgrove, Mr. P. L. Julian, Miss Elizabeth Chesney, Miss S. Richmond, Miss Irene Moncrieff, Miss Olga Myers, and Miss Dora Levis all did good work. Mr. Phillip Carr was producer, and Mr. P. L. Julian stage-manager.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"L'EPATE."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Alfred Savoir and André Picard, Produced at Fémina on Jan. 25.

Mme. Borel-Borel ..... Mlle. Juliette Darcourt
Mme. Lehmann ..... Mlle. Marguerite Deval
Mme. de Bligny ..... Mlle. Daylac
Mme. de Bouvril ..... Mlle. Roch
Toto ..... Mlle. Luce
Gertrude ..... Mlle Dorny
Borel-Borel ..... M. Vibert
Saint-Maclou ..... M. Juvenet
Jacques Teissier ..... M. Maurice Varny
Ostergoth ..... M. Rouvière
Ernest Lehmann ..... M. Trévoux
André Borel ..... M. Simon

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, Jan 30.—In their new venture, the authors have striven to show that "l'épate"—the French slang for "bluff"—is the best way for getting on in the world, and in the opening act we are introduced to the Borel-Borel family—queer people. Monsieur Borel-Borel has begun life as manager of a small café in Marseilles, but he has been very successful, and has now become a good-natured and kind-hearted millionaire banker. His wife is less pleasant. She is ambitious, she wants to rise higher and higher in the social scale, and she is not overscrupulous in her attempts to perform that feat. The worst feature is that she uses her daughter, Lucienne, as an unwilling accomplice—not to say, a "decoy bird"—to attain her object. Lucienne is twenty-three, remarkably pretty, yet, despite these advantages and an enormous dowry, she is still single. Dozens of men have, of course, asked for her hand; but Mme. Borel-Borel, ignoring Lucienne's happiness, only works to gather fresh aristocratic acquaintances to ornament her salon. Thus, for two years she has been intriguing to secure Ernest Lehmann, the son of the wealthy financier, as her son-in-law. Ernest Lehmann loves Lucienne, and the girl, who likes him, is delighted at the idea of being able to throw up the rôle her mother compels her to play. Her father, who dotes on her, is also very pleased, yet when Ernest's stepmother calls on Mme. Borel-Borel to ask Lucienne's hand for her stepson she meets with a refusal, a refusal which incenses her greatly. The cause of Mme. Borel-Borel's attitude is not far to seek. A certain Duc de Biscaye, a high-born cad, is making love to Lucienne, whereupon the snobbish Mme. Borel-Borel has at once a vista of greatness, and already sees her daughter with a ducal coronet on her visiting cards. When, however, the mother, in her conversation with Lucienne, brings the Duc on the tapis, we assist at a very unpleasant scene. Lucienne does not mince matters, and gives the elder woman to understand that the Duc's intentions are the reverse from honourable; but, to her surprise and disgust, the reply she receives from her mother is that she (Lucienne) has enough tact to keep her princely admirer at a proper distance, and induce him to make her his wife. The outraged girl then takes a queer resolve, a resolve that rather surprised the audience. She has a humble admirer, Jacques Teissier, an employee in her father's office. Under the pretext of going to a garden-party, where she is to meet the Duc, she drives straight to Jacques' house, and gives herself to him. On her return home she confesses everything to her father, who is, of course, thunderstruck with this news. But the mischief is done, and there remains nothing to the Borel-Borels than to let their daughter marry the penniless Jacques.

"LES ECLAIREUSES."

Play, in Four Acts, by M. Maurice Donnay, Produced at the Comédie-Marigny, on Jan. 26.

Jeanne ..... Mlle. Dorziat
Rose Bernard ..... Mlle. Blanche Toutain
Charlotte Alzette ..... Mlle. Spinelly
Edith Smith ..... Mlle. Alice Nory
Germaine Luceau ..... Mlle. Barthe
Jacques Lehelloy ..... M. Claude Garry
Paul Durcille ..... M. Roussell
Arthur ..... M. Jacquier

This is an anti-suffrage play wherein the able playwright shows that he has little or no sympathy with the so-called feminist movement. According to him, all this freedom is only illusory. Women, he says, are slaves to feelings, nor can they do away with social laws, and especially with that formidable institution—marriage. M. Donnay's heroine, Jeanne Durcille, dreams of "freedom," and she divorces her dictatorial husband so as to join the "éclaireuses," i.e., the advanced guard of Feminism. In the second act she is "free," and has become the centre of a group of ladies with very advanced ideas, a queer assembly, where we meet, among others, Miss Edith Smith, a fascinating English suffragette, bearing a close resemblance to Miss Christabel Pankhurst, whom we have the pleasure of having now in our midst. Like Miss Pankhurst, Miss Edith Smith has sought shelter in France being on bad terms with the English police for having smashed numberless shop windows. Miss Smith is pleased with herself, and she presents the assembly with a trophy, a cap she snatched from the head of an undergraduate in Cambridge who had interrupted her lecture by reminding her that her stockings required mending. And then the inevitable happens. Jacques Lehelloy, a sensible, high-minded man, loves Jeanne, who returns the compliment, with the result that they fall into one another's arms. But a difficulty arises. The advanced guard to which Jeanne belongs has a horror of the very word "marriage," and Jeanne therefore consents to become his mistress, but not his wife. Jacques becomes her lover, yet he tries to induce her to make their union lawful. Jeanne remains obstinate. When however, she is warned by Jacques that her ex-husband has started legal proceedings to deprive her of the custody of their little daughter, and that on account of her "irregular" position the Court may decide against her, she takes fright and consents to become Mme. Jacques Lehelloy, fully convinced that she will be a happy wife. And there will now be an end to the "éclaireuses," as far as she is concerned. The work, which met with a warm reception, was capitally acted by first-class company.

"Le Sortilège" is the title of an opera by M. Maurice Magre, for which M. André Gailhard, the son of the former manager of the Opéra, has supplied the music. The libretto is childish, and the score rather colourless. The composer, however, is only twenty-five, and, as he is not without talent, we may expect better things from him.

Owing to the illness of Miss Minnie Mace, Miss Bobs Du Cane has been playing the part of the Princess in "Jack and the Beanstalk" with great success all this week at the Elephant Theatre.

For the remainder of the first week a well-assorted and attractive programme has been arranged, including "A Midsummer Night's Dream" (with Mendelssohn's music), "The Taming of the Shrew," "Hamlet," "The Merchant of Venice," "Julius Cæsar," and Goldsmith's "She Stoops to Conquer." There will be matinées on Wednesday and Saturday. It is now four years since Mr. Benson has undertaken so extensive a season in London, and now that there is so much talk about repertory theatres it will be interesting to see how far the idea has taken root in the public mind.

SPORTING NOTES.

BY SANTOI.

With the Spring Handicap weights the dull season may be said to have come to an end, and even the jumping will be brighter and brisker from now onwards. There are no penalties in the Grand National now, so that owners have little excuse for not running their best 'chasers in public. From the issue of the entries it was a foregone conclusion that last year's winners, Long Set and Jerry M., would be top-weights in the Lincolnshire and Grand National, and would be apportioned burdens which have never been carried successfully before. Clorane's 9st. 4lb. was the nearest approach to Long Set's weight, while the 12st. 7lb. under which Jerry M. triumphed at Liverpool last March is the biggest weight yet carried to victory in the National.

I think White Star at 7st. 10lb. constitutes the flaw in the Lincolnshire Handicap. He was a most troublesome horse to handicap, no doubt; but if the handicapper has erred, it has certainly been on the lenient side, and this view is supported by Messrs. Dawkins and Lee's conclusions as expressed in the City and Suburban and Jubilee respectively. In the Lincolnshire Handicap White Star receives no less than 25lb. from Long Set. Mr. Dawkins, in the Epsom handicap, reckons him only 18lb. behind Long Set; while the Kempton handicapper takes another view of his form, and only 15lb. separates him from the top-weight, Long Set. Well might Mr. J. B. Joel congratulate himself therefore upon White Star's weight at Lincoln, and if he cannot win this year's Lincolnshire Handicap, his place as favourite for the Derby at this time last year was nothing less than monstrous. Of course, he may not be fit by April 1, but really he will never be given a finer chance in a handicap, and therefore there is every inducement to bring him into condition. Of course, strictly on the book, White Star has nothing in hand of Gigar on their running in the Champion Stakes at Newmarket last October, as they are at the same difference in weight, namely, 7lb., and White Star was beaten six lengths; but everyone knows that White Star was not himself that day, and there is the improvement to be looked for in a three-year-old from October to April in his favour. That is something more than 7lb.

Another exceedingly well-handicapped animal is Tuxedo. There is really no saying how good was this son of Soliman last back-end, for his last race of the season, the Coventry Handicap at Kempton in October, he won literally running away. He was heavily backed, too, to beat Jingling Geordie at Newbury in September, but was beaten a length. In the Jubilee Tuxedo is allowed 5lb. by Jingling Geordie for this beating. Cuthbert, who won the Great Tom Plate over seven furlongs of the Lincolnshire Handicap course, cannot complain at his apportionment, 6st. 7lb. Indeed, among the extreme light-weights he is one of the best handicapped horses in the race. Early Hope, too, is below the 7st. mark, and Le Touquet, and both I know are to be specially trained for Lincoln. Early Hope, being a gelding, is certain to come to hand early; while Le Touquet's success last spring proves that he is the sort of horse for early racing.

Although 12st. 10lb. has never yet been carried successfully in the Grand National, Sir Charles Assheton Smith cannot complain this time that his great horse has been harshly dealt with, and the fact must be remembered that the minimum has been raised to 10st. Indeed, it seems unfair to other horses, who finished behind Jerry M. last year, that his penalty for an easy six lengths' victory is but 3lb. Bloodstone, who was second, goes up a pound, so that he is allowed 2lb. only for a beating of six lengths; while Axle Pin, who was third, has exactly the same weight as he carried last March. He is a young horse though, and will doubtless improve some pounds.

The contempt in which the handicapper holds the majority of the National horses is shown by the gap of 17lb. which he has left between Jerry M. and the next horse to him in the handicap. Carsey, who was fourth last year, and who won the Grand Sefton in November, like Bloodstone, goes up a pound, which is inexplicable, seeing that Axle Pin, a younger horse, who finished in front of him, has the same weight as last year. Rathnally has done well. Five pounds which he has been let off for his bad failure means a lot at Liverpool, and next to Jerry M. I can see no more likely horse, unless it be Blowpipe, just 4lb. from the foot of the handicap. At this stage it looks a one-horse race; that is, Jerry M. outclasses the others, and, in the opinion of most people who saw him win last year, he has been given at least 2lb. less than he ought to have.

Waiontha provides the surprise of the Jubilee Handicap. She is unbeaten, but we hardly appreciated her performances last season as up to classic standard. That, however, is evidently the handicapper's view in giving a three-year-old 7st. 8lb. It is not a record burden for a three-year-old to win under in this handicap, as Polar Star carried 7st. 12lb. to victory at that age in 1907, but it is plenty for a filly who has never met any of the classic horses. Bachelor's Hope goes up 21lb. since his success last year, and he actually concedes Mustapha poundage this time, the different terms upon which they can meet being 25lb. Adam Bede has nothing to complain of at 8st. 7lb. It is 17lb. more than the weight he carried when he won the Duke of York Stakes over the Jubilee course in October, but another stone might not have stopped him then. At all events, he carried a 10lb. penalty to victory in the Cambridgeshire a fortnight later. The handicapping of Lomond in the City and Suburban is interesting. Evidently Mr. Dawkins does not take his St. Leger failure seriously, for he has to give a pound to Maiden Erlegh, who finished many lengths in front of him at Doncaster. Mr. Hulton has also Scot's Saint in the race. This gigantic animal could not be trained until late in the season last year. His dimensions make him unsuitable for a course like Epsom, though a three-year-old in at a most attractive weight is Aldegond with 6st. 7lb. I know that this colt is a lot better than his bald book form shows, and he is the right sort to include in doubles and trebles.

Columbus stands out in the Queen's Prize as one of the best handicapped horses in the whole of the spring handicaps. Everyone who saw the Manchester November Handicap will remember how unlucky he was to lose, and in letting him into the Kempton event at 7st. 13lb., I think the race has been presented to him. Fit and well, he is a good horse. He was just finding his form in the soft ground last back-end, and the wet winter we have experienced so far will suit his infirmities.

SELECTIONS.

The ground will be terribly heavy at Windsor to-day, and we shall be lucky if we escape flood. The Englefield Hurdle Handicap ought to be good for VEDRINES after his running with Elstead at Kempton last Saturday; MELAMAR will about win the Castle Steeplechase, though Ballyhackle would be dangerous if started. CHATEAU VERT should win the Five-Year-Old Steeplechase, and BUNCH OF KEYS the Maiden Four-Year-Old Hurdle. At Derby on Monday SHACCABAC represents a gambling chance in the Handicap Hurdle on his running at Newbury the other day, when he was short of work. BYZLAR may win the Ripton Steeplechase, and FLORIZEL'S PRIDE the Matlock Hurdle. On Tuesday SAVANNAH II. is good enough for the Rangemore Steeplechase, GOLDBEATER the Ilkestone Hurdle, and CELERITY the Elvaston Steeplechase.

ON THE ROAD, FEBRUARY 3.

Alias Jimmy Valentine.—W.G.T., New Brighton.
Allah's Orchard.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Amazons, The.—O.H., Burton-on-Trent
An Arabian Vengeance.—Lyceum T., Crewe.
Arcadians, The.—Grand T., Hull.
Autumn Manœuvres.—Kennington Theatre.
Bella Donna (Limpus).—Halifax.
Ben-Hur.—New T., Manchester.
Benson, Mr. F. R.—O.H., Belfast.
Bonnie Mary.—T.R., Dewsbury.
Brewster's Millions.—New Brighton.
Bulmer, Mr.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (N.).—T.R., Bolton.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (S.).—T.R., Exeter and Torquay.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—King's T., Edinburgh.
Cattle Thief, The.—O.H., Dunfermline.
Child of the Streets.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Chocolate Soldier (W.).—Accrington.
Chocolate Soldier (N.).—T.R., Birkenhead.
Chocolate Soldier (No. 1).—Empire, Coventry.
Chocolate Soldier (E.).—Dumfries and Lancaster.
Collier's Lass (N.).—Palace T., Newcastle.
Collier's Lass, The (S.).—T.R., Stratford, E.
Colombo Girl, The.—Queen's T., Leeds.
Count of Luxembourg.—New T., Aberdare.
Dancing Mistress, The.—H.M.T., Dundee.
D'Oyly Carte Opera.—T.R., York.
Draper, Mr. Marcus.—Palace T., Porth.
Fanny's First Play (Rignold and Macdona).—P.O.W., Grimsby.
For Wife and Kingdom.—Empire T., Cradley Heath.
Garrod, Mr. W. V.—Pavilion, Morley.
Girl in the Picture.—O.H., Perth.
Girl in the Train. Grand T., Falkirk.
Girl of My Heart.—T.R., Sunderland.
Glossop-Harris Rept.—T.R., Colchester.
Great White Chief, The.—T.R., Castleford.
Harvey, Martin.—H.M.T., Dundee.
Hill-Mitchelson, E.—T.R., Leicester.
Hindle Wakes.—O.H., Coventry.
Hindle Wakes.—Pavilion, Hoylake.
Hindle Wakes.—T.R., Stockport.
Hindle Wakes.—Alexandra T., Widnes.
Hope, The (Dance).—T.R., Blackburn.
In a Man's Power.—Grand T., Luton.
Indian Scout, The.—Grand T., Stockton.
Kismet (Dance) (S.).—Grand T., Fulham, S.W.
Kismet (Dance) (N.).—Newcastle.
Kit Carson.—Court T., Warrington.
Lifeguardsman, The (S.).—Queen's T., Workington.
Lodge-Percy Rept.—Pier P., Eastbourne.
Man to Man.—T.R., Wolverhampton.
Marsh, Alexander, Shakespearean.—T.R., Lincoln.
'Mid Pleasures and Palaces.—T.R., Barnsley.
Milestones (Fit-up).—Dorking and Redhill.
Milestones (White).—O.H., Northampton.
Miracle, The.—Century T., Motherwell.
Miss Hook of Holland.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Moody-Manners Opera Co.—Haggar's T., Llanelly.
Mormon and His Wives.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
Mormon and the Maid.—Newport and Cheltenham.
Mother's Love, A.—Fleetwood.
Nick Carter.—Folkestone and Hastings.
Oath of Vengeance.—Lyceum, Crewe.
Old Home, The.—Empire, Middleton.
Pink Lady, The.—T.R., Wimbledon, S.W.
Pride of the Prairie.—Junction T., Manchester.
Princess Caprice.—(Jan. 20 to Feb. 10), King's T., Glasgow.
Prisoner of Zenda.—T.R., Chorley.
Quaker Girl (N.).—Bury.
Quaker Girl (E.).—Gainsborough and Grantham.
Quaker Girl (S.).—Swansea.
Queen Mother, The.—Grand T., Mansfield.
Queen of the Redskins (N.).—Grand T., Nelson.
Raynor Repertory Co.—King's T., Manchester.
Red Riding Hood (De Lacy and Tymes).—Hippodrome, Shildon.
Rollicking Rory.—O.H., Londonderry.
Round-Up, The.—Hippo., Bolton.
Royal Divorce, A.—Alhambra, Stourbridge.
Scrape o' the Pen.—Alhambra, Glasgow.
Sign of the Cross.—New T., Pontypridd.
Silver King.—Scarborough and Harrogate.
Slave Girl, The.—Metropole, Bootle.
Sledge-Hammer, The.—Palace T., Rushden.
Still Alarm, The.—Coliseum, Goole.
Sunshine Girl (Dance).—T.R., Bournemouth.
Sweet Nell of Old Drury.—Cheltenham and Newport.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Lyceum T., Ipswich
Van Praagh-Whitty Rept.—Alhambra, Openshaw.
Waltz Dream (N.).—T.R., Huddersfield.
Waltz Dream (S.).—Hippodrome, Darlington.
Ways and Means.—Hastings and Folkestone.
What Happened to Jones.—Hippo., Birkenhead.
Whip, The (Dance) (S.).—T.R., Bath.
Whip, The (Dance) (N.).—T.R., Hanley.
Wife for a Day, A.—Pavilion, Morley, Yorks.
With Edged Tools.—G.T., Rawtenstall.
Witness for the Defence.—Palace P., Brighton.
Woman Pays, The.—P.O.W., Salford.
Young Buffalo.—Grand T., Plymouth.
10.30 Down Express.—Hippo., Bilston.

SUNDAY'S TRAIN CALLS.

By the courtesy of the various railway companies we are enabled to give the following particulars regarding the movements of theatrical and music hall touring companies travelling by rail to-morrow:

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN.

The following companies will travel by the above route to-morrow (Sunday):—"Chocolate Soldier," Leigh and Bedford to Accrington; "Red Riding Hood," Leigh and Bedford to Belfast; Miss Alice Raymond's Co., Aberdeen to Dublin; "The Barrier," Hoylake to Dublin; "The Whip," Croydon to Hanley; "Milestones," Margate to Northampton; Mr. Fred. Karno's "Mumming Birds," London to Altrincham; "Arms and the Girl," Portsmouth to Liverpool; "When London Sleeps," Southend to Leigh and Bedford; "Slave Runners," London to Southport; "Bella Donna," Cambridge to Leicester; "Peggy," Norwich to Birmingham; "The Whip," Ipswich to Bath; "Jack and the Beanstalk," Northampton to Chester; "Cinderella," Nuneaton to Batley; "Oath of Vengeance," Leeds to Crewe; "Kit Carson," Morley to Warrington; "Dick Whittington," Worksop to Bangor; "Dick Whittington," Manchester to Liverpool; "The Amazons," Leamington to Burton; "Mormon and his Wives," Birmingham to Liverpool; Vaudevillians, Birmingham to Manchester; "Eyes of the World," Bilston to Manchester; "Robinson Crusoe," Wolverhampton to Moses Gate; "Fatal Wedding," Stafford to Glossop; "Butterfly on Wheel," Shrewsbury to Wigan; "Babes in the Wood," Stockport to Burnley; "Aladdin," Fleetwood to Dudley; "Dick Whittington," Preston to St. Helens; "Robinson Crusoe," Wigan to Hanley; "Aladdin," Colwyn Bay to Woolwich; Lodge Percy's Co., Bangor to Eastbourne; "Chocolate Soldier," Chester to Coventry; "Red Riding Hood," Stoke to London; "Merry Widow," Dublin to Ashton; "House That Jack Built," Birkenhead to Rotherham; "Jack and the Beanstalk," Birkenhead to St. Helens; "Mother Goose," Warrington to Manchester; "No Mother to Guide Her," Earlestown to Great Harwood; "Mother's Love," Macclesfield to Fleetwood; "Our Miss Gibbs," Stockport to Preston; "The Miracle," Buxton to Motherwell; "Babes in the Wood," Nelson to Barrow; "Scrape o' the Pen," Huddersfield to Glasgow; "Silver Creek," Belfast to Carlisle; "Easiest Way," Wolverhampton to Aldershot; "Prairie Outlaw," Smethwick to Nuneaton; "Red Riding Hood," Stourbridge to Yarmouth; Solo, Birmingham to London; "Aladdin," Birmingham to Coventry; "The Gambler," Glasgow to Wakefield; "Cinderella," Carlisle to London; "Red Riding Hood," Manchester to Longton; "Wild Girl of the Forest," Liverpool to Tonypandy; "Pride of Byzantia," St. Helens to Aberaman; "Fiffinella," Liverpool to London; "Pet of the Ranch," Nelson to Stafford; Oswald Williams, Nelson to Wolverhampton; Leonard Mortimer, Barrow to Stoke; "Kismet," Manchester to Newcastle; Lancashire Lads, Manchester to Newcastle.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel over the above railway to-morrow (Sunday):—"Dick Whittington," Edinburgh to Manchester; "Sinbad," Glasgow to London; "Dick Whittington," Edinburgh to Chorley; "Cinderella," Kirkcaldy to Darlington; "Beauty and the Beast," Spennymoor to Dundee; "Mermaids," Fencehouses to Coatbridge; "Man Tempted Me," Newcastle to Belfast; "Prairie Outlaw," Sunderland to South Shields; Kino's Juveniles, Spennymoor to North Shields; "Dick Whittington," Newcastle to South Shields; the Turner Opera Company, Shield Row to Bishop Auckland; "Leah Kleschna," South Shields to Shield Row; Rolfe E. Slater's company, Wallsend to Ashington; "Arcadians," North Shields to West Hartlepool; "Cinderella," Seaham to Ashington; "Aladdin," West Hartlepool to Gateshead; "Pink Lady," Newcastle to Wimbledon; "Golden Land of Fairy Tales," Newcastle to London; "Village Nuts," Chester-le-Street to Hemsworth; "Puss in Boots," Newcastle to Burnley; Darracq company, Sunderland to Nelson; "Great White Chief," Newcastle to Castleford; "Cinderella," Carlisle to Pontefract; "Bunty Pulls the Strings," Bishop Auckland to Bolton; "Leah," Crook to Burnley; Raynor's company, Hartlepool to Manchester; "Forty Thieves," Sunderland to Leeds; "Sinbad," Fencehouses to Keighley; "Cinderella," Sunderland to Middlesbrough; "Sweet Nell of Old Drury," York to Cheltenham; "Cinderella," York to Liverpool; "Aladdin," Middlesbrough to Sunderland; "Collier's Lass," Middlesbrough to Newcastle; "Dick Whittington," Reading to Hull; "Jack Horner," Keighley to Middlesbrough; "Lancashire Lad," Manchester to Newcastle; D'Oyly Carte's company, Halifax to York; "Cinderella," Dewsbury to Thornaby; "Bonnie Mary," Thornaby to Dewsbury; "Waltz Dream," Thornaby to Darlington; "Kismet," Manchester to Newcastle; "Girl who went Astray," Stoke to Spennymoor; "Third Degree," King's Cross to Newcastle; "Arcadians," Wigan to Hull; "Indian Scout," Middleton to Stockton; "Only a Mill Girl," Castleford to Wigan; "Silver King," Wakefield to Scarborough; the March Hares, Harrogate to Peterborough; "Autumn Manœuvres," Hull to London; Bell's company, Hull to London; Houdini company, Hull to Leeds; "Cinderella," Scarborough to Crook.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel by the Midland route to-morrow (Sunday): Miss Julia Neilson and company, York to Cheltenham; "The Sunshine Girl," St. Pancras to Manchester; "Gipsy Love," Manchester to Edinburgh; "The Hope," Derby to Blackburn; "The Round Up," Nottingham to Bolton; "Cinderella," Birmingham to Hull; Matheson Lang's company, London to Manchester; "The Merry Widow," Woolwich to Wellingborough; "Blackguard of the Regiment," Widnes to Leicester; "Instinct," St. Pancras to Manchester; "Aladdin," Mansfield to Nottingham; Edith Sinclair's pantomime, Rochdale to Derby; The Craggs, Sheffield to Newcastle; "Private Potts," Leicester to London; "The Sledge-Hammer," Sutton-in-Ashfield to Rushden; "Queen of the Redskins," Wellingborough to Nelson; "River Girl," Bradford to Croydon; "Cinderella," Bootle to Rotherham; "Sinbad the Sailor," Fencehouses to Keighley; "Mormon and the Maid," Manchester to Newport; "Forty Thieves," St. Albans to Southend; Gaby Revette company, Chesterfield to Dover; Alexander Marsh's company, Burton to Lincoln; "Little Jack Horner," Keighley to Middlesbrough; "Cattle Thief," Coalville to Wednesbury; "Apple of Eden," Barnsley to Bishop Auckland; Rabottini's Band, Chesterfield to Worcester; Haley's Girls, Chesterfield to Keighley; Catawampus, Brighton to Manchester; "Arms and the Girl," Portsmouth to Liverpool; "Man to Man," Nottingham to Wolverhampton; Six Ceylons, Southampton to Ilkeston; "Seaside Review," Nottingham to London; "Aladdin," Great Harwood to New Mills; "Dick Whittington," Clitheroe to Sutton-in-Ashfield; Marie Santoi and Troupe, Shirebrook to Leicester; "Nick Carter" Bedford to Folkestone; "In a Man's Power" Bedford to Luton; "Collier's Lass," Radcliffe to St. Pancras; "Queen Mother," Grimsby to Mansfield; "What Women will do for Love," Lowestoft to Coalville; Santhaler Troupe, Ripley to Weymouth; Savonas, Sheffield to London; "The Girl who Went Astray," Stoke to Spennymore; "Parker P.C.," Chorley to Bedford.

LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The undermentioned theatrical parties will be travelling over the above company's system to-morrow (Sunday):—The Real Ragtimers will leave Waterloo by the 12.30 p.m. luncheon car express for Exeter; Mr. John Warren's company will travel from Waterloo to Aldershot by the 2 p.m. train. Other companies travelling by the L. and S.W. route will include: Messrs. Moreton and Heath's "Jack and Jill" pantomime, Plymouth to Waterloo; Mr. George Dance's "The Sunshine Girl," Southampton to Bournemouth; Mr. Cyril Maude's "Bunty Pulls the Strings," Bournemouth to Exeter; Miss Marie Studholme's Co., Chatham to Portsmouth (leaving Waterloo 10 a.m.); "The Easiest Way," Wolverhampton to Aldershot; "The Monk and the Woman," Crystal Palace to Southampton; Fred. Ginnett's "Wild West Australia," Southampton to Boscombe; "Arms and the Girl," Portsmouth to Liverpool; "Canada," Boscombe to Portsmouth; "King of the Wild West," Portsmouth to Plymouth; "Mysteries of the Thames," Woolwich to Bordon; Moore and Burgess Minstrels, Weymouth to Worthing; The Six Ceylons, Southampton to Ilkeston; Linga Singh, Aberdare to Kingston; Selbit's Co., Southampton to Waterloo; "The Devil's Elbow," Southampton to Chatham.

LONDON, BRIGHTON, AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.

Theatrical movements Sunday next:—"Monte Cristo" Co., Eastbourne to Victoria; Le Roy Co., Portsmouth Town to Brighton; Moore and Burgess Minstrels, Weymouth to Worthing; "Two Little Vagabonds" Co., Worthing to Cardiff; "Susan's Embellishments" Co., Brighton to Victoria; Elder Hare's Co., Brighton to Bath; "Miss Marquis" Co., Brighton to Bures (G.E.R.); "Love and What Then?" Co., Stratford to Portsmouth Town; "The Whip" Co., East Croydon to Hanley; "Monk and Woman" Co., Crystal Palace to Southampton; "Ways and Means" Co., Brighton to Hastings; "Aladdin" Co., Bognor to Victoria; "Speckled Band" Co., Bognor to Sheerness; Marie Studholme's Co., Chatham to Portsmouth Town; Katawampus Co., Brighton to Manchester.

A reading of "The Merry Wives of Windsor" was given in the Botanical Theatre at University College, Gower-street, W.C., on Monday afternoon by the British Empire Shakespeare Society. All the parts were in capable hands, and the comedy found ideal exponents in Miss Nora Lancaster and Miss Lilias Waldegrave as the Merry Wives, and Mr. Acton Bond as Sir John Falstaff. Excellent readings were also given by Mr. Chris Walker as Pistol, Mr. Stanley Drewitt as Shallow, Mr. J. Henry Twyford as Master Page, Mr. Alan Trotter as Sir Hugh Evans, Mr. Howard Rose as the Host, and Mr. J. B. Fryer as Simple. The humours of Bardolph and Nym were fully realised by Messrs. Eric Snowdon and Terence O'Brien, and Miss Rose Dupre as Mistress Quickly, Miss Alma Taylor as Anne Page, and Mr. Herbert Alexander as Fenton. gave an exceptionally good account of themselves. The contrasted parts of Master Ford, Dr. Caius, and Slender were in the very capable hands of Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, Mr. Michael Sherbrooke, and Mr. Arthur Hare, respectively, and the jealousy of the former no less than the delightful comedy of the French Doctor and Shallow's cousin were portrayed to perfection by the talented artistes who undertook them. A large and very appreciative audience followed the reading with every sign of enjoyment, and the applause at the close was loud and general. Among others taking part were Miss Ruby Blick, Miss Margaret Everritt (who read the stage directions), and Mr. Basil Hallward. The play was under the direction of Mr. Acton Bond, the Society's general director, who had also rehearsed the cast.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. GEORGE EDWIN CLIVE.

Mr. George Edwin Clive commenced his stage career under the able banner of the late Mr. Henry Neville, thus securing the advantages of a thorough training under the guidance of one of our best graced and most distinguished English actors. After eighteen months under Mr. Neville's management he was engaged to play the important part of Dunstan Renshaw in Mr. Pinero's play, "The Profligate," and made such a success that engagements quickly followed in "A Bunch of Violets," "A Woman of No Importance," "Captain Swift," "The Importance of being Earnest," etc. Then came an engagement as Armand in "The Lady of the Camelias," during which tour he had the honour of supporting Mrs. Brown Potter, whose generous appreciation of his performance of the part is one of his most cherished memories.

After a tour with Mr. Thalberg Corbett and Miss Marion Terry in "Lady Windermere's Fan," playing Lord Darlington, Mr. Clive migrated to farcical comedy, essaying the leading parts in such well-known farces as "Mamma," "Our Flat," "Pinafore," "A Pair of Spectacles," "Our Boys," "Facing the Music," "Jane," etc. Mr. Clive then had a number of years in melodrama,

[Photo by S. Langfier.

MR. GEORGE EDWIN CLIVE.

playing leads in "One of the Best," "The Fatal Card," "Boys Together," "Harbour Lights," "Cheer, boys, cheer," "The White Heather," "In the Ranks," "Trumpet Call," etc. Following the lead of his confrères, Mr. Clive passed on to the music hall stage, and appeared in several sketches, some from his own pen, which he produced himself. Anxious to gain experience in every branch of his profession, he entered the ranks of theatrical managers and toured plays in conjunction with Mr. John Humphries, Messrs. Polimi and Berton, Mr. Charles Grant, etc.

Apart from his stage career, Mr. Clive fills in his spare time with literary work, being the author of "The Master of Millions," "The Woman from Scotland Yard," "The Last Hope," "The Seal of Confession," "The Penalty," and others. His pen is also often employed writing storyettes, and his name is well known to the drama and music hall public. In London Mr. Clive has appeared at St. James' in "The Princess and the Butterfly," "The Conquerors"; at the Imperial Theatre in "A Man of His Word"; and at the Prince's in "Doctor Nikola." In 1910 Mr. Clive married Audrey Willows, only daughter of Mr. J. B. Willows, of Hull and Scarborough, well known professionally as Miss Amber Wyville, and they toured with Miss Lillian Aubrey in "The Prodigal Son," playing Oscar and Helga, this being Mr. Clive's third tour in the part created by Sir George Alexander. Mr. Clive started his stage career at the early age of eighteen, and, as the above biography shows, has crammed a good deal of hard work and useful knowledge into twelve years' practical experience.

Young Buffalo will present "For Her Children's Sake," by Theodore Brewer, at the Broadway Theatre on August Bank Holiday.

This week Mr. C. Douglas Carlile's play, "The Great Detective," is being produced at the Royal Aquarium, Great Yarmouth. The cast includes: Messrs. Leo Gilbert, C. A. Carlile, C. D. Carlile, and Miss Carlotta de Yonson.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped addressed Envelope must be enclosed with application for each Letter. No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this List.

Aplins, Miss May
Arizona, Mr. A.
Athas and Collins
Austin, Mr. S. J.
Bair, Miss Enid
Banzai Family
Bard, Miss Nellie
Barratt, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar
Barrett Sisters
Bass, Mr. Eric
Beadell, Miss Eily
Beech, Miss Ethel
Beech, Miss Gladys
Bell, Mr. Mostyn
Bentz, Mr. Frank
Bignell, Mr. Chas.
Blake, Mr. Gus
Boarer, Miss Beatrice
Bogue, Mr. J. Russell
Brennan, Mr. Will
Brockbank, Mr. Harrison
Bruce and Ross
Brumley, Mr. J.
Burnaby, Mr. Eustace
Burnett, Mrs. F. H.
Burton, Mr. Aidrie
Cady, Mrs.
Calvert, Mr. Louis
Casey, Miss Dorothy
Chester, Mr. Erne
Clark, Miss Dorothy
Clayton, Mr. William
Cochran, Mr. Chas.
Codling, Mr. A. J.
Collings, Miss Patricia
Colven, Mr. Joe
Corbett, Mr. Mat
Corolli, Miss J.
Cruikshank, Mr.
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Cummin and Seaham
Davis Mr. Fred
Dawsone, Mr. Percy
Dennis, Mr. Will
Devi, Mr. Geo.
Doris and Francis
Duncan, Miss Katie
Duse, Mme. Eleonora
Edams, Mr. G.
Ellwanger, Mr. W. T.
Everard, Mr. Walter
Fannan, Mr. P.
Field, Miss Daisy
Fortescue, Miss
Fossett, Mr. Harry
Gallimore Trio
Gilman, Mr. A.
Gilmour, Mr. A.
Glad Idlers, The
Glynn, Miss
Godfrey, Mr. Arthur
Godwin, Miss Olive
Graham, Mr. Neville
Graham, Mr. Walter
Granville, Miss H.
Gray, Mr. G. H.
Hamilton, Miss Belle
Hardy, Miss Marguerite
Hare, Miss Sybil
Heilbronn, Mr. W.
Hennessys, The
Hinchcliffe, Mr. W.
Hindle, Mr. J.
Holloway, Mr.
Hornsey, Mr. Leonard
Hortop, Mr.
Howard, Mr. Walter
Hunt, Mr. R. A.
Hutchison, Mr. J. Moreton
Hyatt, Mr. Percival
Imeson, Mr. Ernest
Irving, Miss Daisy
Ives and Bros.
Kellermann, Miss A.
Kendal, Mr. and Mrs.
Kenyon, Mr. Neil
King, Miss
Knights, Mme. L.
La Martine, Mr. Herbert
Land, Mr. Fred
Laselle, Miss Kitty
Latchford, Miss Gertie
Lauri, Mr.
Laurie, Miss Carrie
Lawrence, Mr. Clem
Lawrence, Mr. P.
Leif, Miss Tiny
Leigh, Mr. Arthur
Leigh, Mr. Andrew G.
Levaine, Mr. Harry
Lind, Miss Letty
Lockwood, Mr. T. R.
Lorimer, Mr. Jack
Luigi, Signor Dallara
Macdonald, Miss Nellie
McIntosh, Miss Madge
Mahers, The Three
McPherson, Mr. Mervyn
Macpherson, Miss K.
McQuire, Mr. T. C.
Mansfield, Miss Genevieve
Melville, Mr. Jack
Meredro, Miss M.
Moran, Mr. J. W.
Morris, Mr. Allen
Mozart, Mr. T.
Mudie, Mr. Geo.
Murray, Miss Gertie
Naase, Miss Caroline
Nethersole, Miss Olga
Norrie, Mr. Russell
Northcote, Mr. A.
Nuku, Mr. H. M.
Ohmy, Mr. Joe
Page, Miss Lillian Gwen
Paxton, Mr.
Payne, Mr. B. Iden
Peterman, Mr. Joe
Pillans, Miss Helen
Pinder, Mr. Eddy
Purchase, Mr. A.
Reano, Mr. T. H.
Revy, Miss Aurelie
Reynolds, Mr. Harry
Rhyde, Mr. Thos.
Rice and Shepherd
Riorin, Mr. Karl
Roberts, Mr. Ralph
Robertson, Miss Agnes
Robinson, Mr. Phil
Romeo, Missouri
Rose, Miss
Rose, Mr. Leonard
Rosmer, Mr. Milton
Russell, Mr. Leonard
Sallier Sisters
Samouda, Prince
Sampson, Mr. C. A.
Sargent, Mr. Herbert C.
Seaton, Mr. A. Morrice
Seymour, Miss Maude
Seymour, Mr. O. G.
Shaw, Mr. W. B.
Sleath, Mr. Herbert
Smithers, Mr. Albert
Spaulton, Mr.
Stavordale Quintette
Steer, Miss Janette
Stiles, Mr. Leslie
Storey, Mr. Tom
Stuart, Mr. Leslie
Studholme, Miss Marie
Thomas, Mr. Rhys
Thorne, Miss M.
Thorpe and Coe
Tonia, Miss Josie
Turner, Mr. Alun
Tyrrell, Miss Florence
Van Earle, Mme.
Van Rook
Walls, Mr. Tom
Walton and Lester
Walton, Mr. Eugene
Ward, Miss Fanny
Watson, Miss Mabel
Welch, Mr. James
Wentworth, Miss Fanny
Wheelan, Mr. Albert
Whistling Coon
White, Mr. C.
Willard, Mr. James
Wingfield, Mr. Ernest
Wise, Mr. Jack
Wisper
Worrall, Mr. L.
Wright, Mr. Percy
Wynne, Miss Wish
Yates, Miss Katie
Zuma

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Douglass's Directory, compiled by Albert Douglass, has reached its 17th year of publication, and is as full as ever of tabulated information of special value to amateur dramatic clubs, professional entertainers, and those desirous of engaging their services. It is published at 1s. by Samuel French and other firms in all parts of the Kingdom.

At the monthly meeting of the members of the Urban held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Friday, 24th ult., the subject of the evening's discussion was the Shakespeare v. Bacon question. Mr. Frederick Allen (the chairman) spoke strongly against the Baconian theory, and described Sir Edward Durning-Lawrence as a modern Thersites. Dr. R. W. Leftwich, who is the author of a booklet, in reply to the points raised by Sir E. Durning-Lawrence, adduced evidence to prove that Shakespeare and none other wrote the plays and the poems. Mr. Wenyon Samuel caused considerable amusement by remarking that while there were to be met certain people who knew nothing about Shakespeare or his works, "Bacon" was a household word everywhere. The toast of "The Guests" was proposed in genial style by Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks, and in the course of the evening a selection from "The Two Gentlemen of Verona" was recited by the veteran actor, Mr. E. J. Odell. The members present included Messrs. Bruce Smith, Telbin, Banks, and Walter Browne.

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DEATH OF MR. ERNEST POPE.

The death occurred about noon on Saturday last of Mr. Ernest Edward Pope, resident-manager of the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, and co-lessee with Mr. W. Payne Seddon. The event came as quite a shock to local playgoers, for Mr. Pope had been at the theatre as usual on the Monday week previous, and no serious result was apprehended till a few days before the fatal turn. A severe cold developed into pneumonia, and though unremitting attention was paid him by Dr. W. H. B. Brook and Dr. Bone, two leading practitioners of the city, he gradually sank, and passed away, leaving a widow—who was formerly in the profession—and four young daughters.

Mr. Ernest Edward Pope was the second son of Mr. Michael Pope, of Thurlow Towers, Streatham, and was in his forty-ninth year. Educated at Dulwich College—founded by Alleyne, the celebrated actor—he entered the mercantile service as a boy, and made several voyages in H.M.S. Worcester in the capacity of a cadet. He saw a good deal of the world in that roving period, and in later years, on deciding to adopt the profession as his calling, set out for the United States, where he spent several years as a young man.

Returning to England in 1893, Mr. Pope followed up his dramatic career, and was in the original cast of Robert Ganthony's play, "A Message from Mars," which he had a great hand in producing, when Mr. Charles Hawtrey gave it its first English performances at the Avenue Theatre, London. He toured in the Provinces with great success, and it is a coincidence that his first visit to Lincoln was in a company of which his future wife, Miss Margaret May Wilkinson, second daughter of Mr. Isaac Wilkinson, of London, was a member. The company was that of Miss Agnes Hewitt, and the piece was "The Destroying Angel."

Some seven years ago Mr. Pope and Mr. W. Payne Seddon entered into the joint lesseeship of the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, and their policy has all along proved an immense success, the general line being musical comedy or high-class comedy on the first three evenings of the week, and twice-nightly drama on the closing three nights. As resident-manager Mr. Pope became highly popular, and the two benefit performances taken during his career have seen the theatre packed throughout, while on the second occasion he was presented with a magnificent silver salver, subscribed for by the playgoers of the city. His staff will mourn a kind and most considerate manager, and throughout the city the deepest sympathy is being expressed with the widow and family. The funeral took place at West Norwood Cemetery on Thursday afternoon.

The commencement of the Beecham Opera season at Covent Garden on Wednesday, when Strauss's celebrated comic opera, "Der Rosenkavalier," was given for the first time in this country, was a brilliant "function," and made Mr. Thomas Beecham's third appearance as an operatic impressario in London. On Tuesday the Russian Ballet will make their first appearance in London this season.

Telephone Call Office.—For the convenience of advertisers and members of the amusement professions, a public telephone call office is installed at "The Era" offices, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

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THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"WIESELCHEN."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Leo Lenz, Produced at the Royal Schauspielhaus, Jan. 25.

Von Benzeville ..... Herr Patry
Frau von Benzeville .. Fräulein von Mayberg
Melisande ..... Fräulein Heisler
Gaston ..... Herr Clewing
Von Bréau ..... Herr Kessler
Marquis von Solieres ..... Herr Boetticher
Abbé ..... Herr Vallentin
Platte ..... Herr Vollmer
Gepäckträger ..... Herr Ristow
Zweite Gepäckträger ..... Herr Angemann
Susanne ..... Fräulein Wegener
Aimé ..... Fräulein Leisinger

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Monday, Jan. 28.—This is one of those harmless, happy-go-lucky pieces which the Royal Schauspielhaus is so fond of producing when it does go to the extent of a new play, and the audience of our Imperial Theatre, being ever a very easily satisfied one, the result is always quite to the taste of management and author. Herr Lenz has adopted an "idea" from the French writer Gyp, and he has laid the scene of his comedy in France. A few words will be sufficient to describe the simple plot. Melisande, or Wieselchen, as the author prefers she should be called, is a cheeky, but very lovable, little maiden of seventeen, only daughter of Herr and Frau von Benzeville. She is a flirt and hoyden and many other things, but her heart is in the right place, and it belongs, though it does not officially transpire till the closing act, to her uncle-by-marriage, Gaston von Benzeville, who is, of course, just the right man for her. Wiesel's mamma is a very proper kind of lady, and tries to keep her wild daughter in check, and to betroth her to a suitable person. It comes to pass that Uncle Gaston inherits a number of millions, of which he promptly hands one to Wiesel, and several more to his brother—Wiesel's step-father. Our little heroine, now having become an heiress in her own right, is much sought after, and very nearly falls a prey to the young and gay Marquis von Solieres. He does not, however, want her, but merely her fortune, and she does not really want him, though her mother would like the match. And so Uncle Gaston turns up at the right moment, and everything comes out as it should. Wiesel wants to give the poor young Marquis some of her money that he may pay his debts, and the happy Gaston, in the joy of his heart that his step-niece loves him, sets the young man "in the dry," to use a German idiom. The interpretation was good throughout, and the author was applauded so heartily that he was able to appear repeatedly before the curtain.

"Majolika," a really amusing three-act farce by MM. Walter Stein and Ludwig Haller, is drawing capitally at the Lustspielhaus, and bids fair to have a long run. It is popularly considered a skit upon the Emperor's "own" factory at Cadinen, where the clay found by his Majesty is being turned into very beautiful terra-cotta and majolica works of art. This is, however, a foolish supposition, for there is nothing in common with the two things. The young Duke Friedrich and his mother go the pace so rapidly that the duchy is in danger; the youthful ruler is in despair, as his privy purse is empty, and the Government of his little country declines to increase it. Applying once more to the money-lenders and financiers, as it has been so often his custom, the Duke receives a proposition from the richest banker of all, Markus Hamburger, who has discovered profitable clay on one of his Royal master's estates, and suggests the organisation of majolica factories. This is soon carried out, and becomes a flourishing concern, notwithstanding that the undertaking is in the hands of an officer who regulates everything in a martial manner not particularly advantageous, although Hamburger lends the money. Soon the works begin to go down, especially as the Duke and his mother have made great demands on the returns, and finally Hamburger comes to the rescue, putting in a good business man, Veilchenfeld, at the head, and turning it into a limited company. Everything now goes smoothly, and the Duke is able to wed the charming Princess Maria the girl of his heart. This clever little Princess, it now turns out, conceived the idea—in concurrence with the Finance Minister—of regulating the young ruler's affairs, by putting them into the capable hands of Markus Hamburger. The bright acting and the merry humour of the piece made it a success from the very first act.

"Tante Simona," a one-act opera by Ernst von Dohnanyi, has been produced for the first time on any stage at the Royal Opera, Dresden, and achieved a complete success. The music is reported to be very bright and melodious, and the instrumentation of a superior order.

Probably in consequence of the heavy demand which his enterprises make upon his time, Mr. Fernand Akoun has resigned his position as managing-director of the London Opera House.

A panic was caused at a theatre at Belleville, on the exterior boulevards of Paris, on Saturday night by the escape of a lioness which takes part in the performance. While being transferred from its cage to an enclosure on the stage, the animal missed the door and walked on to the open stage. Frightened by the screams of the audience, the animal took a flying leap over the orchestra into a box, where it was soon secured. In the stampede which resulted half a dozen people were slightly injured.

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ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the council meeting, held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, Jan. 28, at 2.30 p.m.

Present:—Mr. John Mortimer (in the chair), Messrs. Adnam Sprange, Arthur Dennis, James Gelderd, William Devereux, Murri Moncrieff, F. J. Arlton, W. G. Fay, Frederick James, Miss Lucy Sibley, Miss Laura Leycester, Miss Rose Cazalet, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

Arising out of the minutes, the secretary informed the council that he had got expert opinions for a member in her case against a manager.

The secretary read a letter from a member giving the council further evidence with regard to an agency, and pointing out that the plays advertised by the agency had never been played. Mr. Arlton moved, seconded by Mr. Dennis, that the secretary be instructed to make inquiries. Agreed to unanimously.

The secretary read a letter from a member enclosing substantiation of his complaint against a music hall, and the secretary was instructed to take the usual procedure on the motion of Mr. Dennis seconded by Mr. Arlton.

The secretary read a letter from Messrs. Barnes, Dunn and Boughton with reference to the amended copy of the balance-sheet and accounts and Mr. Arlton moved, seconded by Mr. Moncrieff, "that the report containing the slight amendment in the accounts and balance-sheet be adopted in the place of the accounts and balance-sheet passed at last meeting." Agreed to.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Arlton, and on the motion of Mr. Sprange seconded by Mr. Dennis, adopted.

The Kitchen Committee's report was read by Mr. Sprange and adopted.

The House Committee's report was read by Miss Leycester and, on the motion of Mr. Dennis seconded by Mr. Sprange, adopted.

The Ball Committee's report was tendered by Mr. Mortimer, who reported that there was a brisk demand for tickets, and advising members to secure their tickets as quickly as possible. He also reported that all arrangements were completed and that the committee had decided on three toasts, "The King," "The A.A.," and "The health of the Chairman." Sir Herbert Tree had promised to propose "The A.A.," Mr. William Devereux to respond; and Miss Marie Löhr had kindly undertaken the toast of "The Chairman."

Mr. Devereux informed the council of a message from Mr. Vedrenne, that the Society of West-End Managers would arrange a meeting re the standard contract at their earliest convenience.

The secretary presented copy of the agenda for the annual general meeting, and Mr. Dennis was elected to propose the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, and Miss Rose Cazalet to second it. The election of president, by Miss Sibley seconded by Mr. Sprange. Election of vice-presidents, by Mr. Mortimer seconded by Miss Phyllis Broughton. The council resolution, by Mr. Clarence Derwent seconded by Mr. Frederick James. A vote of thanks to the hon. solicitors and hon. auditors, by Mr. Arlton seconded by Mr. C. F. Collings. A vote of thanks to the physicians, surgeons and doctors, by Mr. Ben Webster seconded by Mr. Fay. A vote of thanks to the chairman, by Mr. Devereux seconded by Miss Laura Leycester.

Miss Lucy Sibley moved that the following advertisement be inserted in the "Stage" and "Era," and also placed on the board in the rooms of the Association and entered in the council minutes, seconded by Miss Leycester:—"The council of the Actors' Association wish theatrical agents to know that artistes will be supplied to them from the Association at any time if they will apply to the secretary. No charge whatever is made by the Association for artistes so supplied." Agreed to unanimously.

The secretary presented the list of attendances of council as follows:—Frederick Annerley, 10; F. J. Arlton, 29; Phyllis Broughton, 2; Rose Cazalet, 20; Beatrice Chester, 7 (resigned through ill-health); C. Hayden Coffin, 5; Cecil A. Collins, 7; C. F. Collings, 29; William Devereux, 12; Clarence Derwent, 16; Arthur Dennis, 20; W. G. Fay, 26; James Gelderd, 10; Frederick James, 28 (co-opted); Laura Leycester, 23 (co-opted); Murri Moncrieff, 31; John Mortimer, 42; Frederick Morland, 34; Henry Pettitt, 10; Tom A. Shale, 4; Lucy Sibley, 32; Vita Spencer, 26; Adnam Sprange, 43; Chris Walker, 11; Wyn Weaver, 7; Ben Webster, 17.

Elections.—George G. Carr, Mabel Burrell, Arnold Pillbeam, E. Watts Tye, Donald Ferguson, and Peter Gale.

Nominations.—Margaret Morris and H. B. Green.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish the following ladies and gentlemen many happy returns of the day:—

Vera Beringer—Saturday, Feb. 1.
Lily Harold—Saturday, Feb. 1.
Grace Wilson—Saturday, Feb. 1.
Clara Butt—Saturday, Feb. 1.
Norman A. Overton—Sunday, Feb. 2.
Dolores Drummond—Monday, Feb. 3.
Nancy Price—Monday, Feb. 3.
Oswald Cray—Monday, Feb. 3.
Hilda Trevelyan—Tuesday, Feb. 4.
Zena Dare—Tuesday, Feb. 4.
Eade Montefiore—Thursday, Feb. 6.
Fanny Wentworth—Thursday, Feb. 6.
Marguerite Broadfoote—Thursday, Feb. 6.
Harry Bristow—Thursday, Feb. 6.
J. W. Rowley—Friday, Feb. 7.
Alfred Bishop—Friday, Feb. 7.
Jack White—Friday, Feb. 7.

Among those who have lately visited the Haymarket Theatre to see "The Younger Generation" are the Duke of Newcastle, the Earl and Countess Rothes, the Right Hon. the Speaker and Mrs. Lowther, the Hon. Mrs. A. Lyttelton, Lord and Lady Cowdray, Sir Ernest Cassel, Lady Henry Somerset, Lady Firth, Sir George and Lady Alexander, Sir Charles Henry, and Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick.

The Committee of Management of the London College of Music have sent us their Syllabus for the year 1913, which remain in force until April, 1914 (June, 1914, for Scotland and Ireland). The first examination in the year 1913 will be held in April, in London, and at the various local centres in the United Kingdom. Entries for this examination must be sent in not later than Saturday, March 15. Other examinations during 1913 will take place in July (June for Scotland and Ireland) and December. The date fixed for the first theoretical examination in 1913 at all local centres is Wednesday, April 9. Other examinations in theory of music take place on June 11, July 9, and Dec. 10.

The higher examinations for the diplomas of associate (A.L.C.M.) and licentiate (L.L.C.M.) are held in April, July (June for Scotland and Ireland) and December. The subjects for which these diplomas are granted are pianoforte playing, singing, organ, violin, &c. For the diplomas of associate in music (A.Mus.L.C.M.), licentiate in music (L.Mus.L.C.M.), the teachers' diploma (L.C.M.), and fellowship (F.L.C.M.), the examinations take place in June, July, and December. Since its institution the College has examined over 250,000 candidates. It has local centres in nearly every part of the civilised world, including Australia, Africa, India, Canada, New Zealand, and Belgium.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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Business Communications should be addressed to THE MANAGER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington-street).
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433 Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

JAMES CLARK.—*His birth date is June 13, 1866.*

ALERT (West Hartlepool).—*We are making inquiries, and will answer you next week.*

LITA SMITH.—*We are making inquiries about the book you wish to buy. Denny's know nothing of such a work.*

AILSA (Egham).—*Try the John Dicks Press, 8, Temple-avenue, E.C. They will send you catalogue on receipt of stamped addressed envelope.*

AMESBURY.—*"Feu Toupinel" was adapted by Fred Horner under the title of "The Late Lamented." We can find no record of adaptations of the other pieces you mention.*

DAN M'GRATH (Liverpool).—*Probably the song was a parody of "Over the sea, over the sea (Charlie is coming home once more)."; but we cannot say for certain, neither can we inform you who sang it.*

F. H. (Wantage).—*Mr. Thomas Beecham is conducting German opera at Covent Garden, and his father, Sir Joseph Beecham, recently gave evidence before the Commission of Inquiry as to the sale of patent medicines. Both are, therefore, very much alive.*

COUSINS (Dublin).—*French's, 26, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C., have on sale "Everyman," "Eager Heart," "Epiphany," and "The Sinner Saint," which may be placed in the category of religious plays. Messrs. Washbourne, of Paternoster-row, London, E.C., publish a catalogue of such plays. Burns and Oates, publishers, Orchard-street, Portman-square, London, W., do likewise. Either firm will send you a catalogue on receipt of stamped envelope. We are unable to ascertain the publishers of the plays you mention. We do not answer correspondents by post.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

DOOLEY.—On Jan. 22, 1913, at Brixton, the wife of Sidney Dooley (née Ethel M. Owens), of a son. Both doing well.

TAYLOR.—A son, on Jan. 25, to Sidney and Dora Clements Taylor, 1, Wells-road, North Gate, Regent's Park.

MARRIAGES.

BOSTOCK—VEEVERS.—On Jan. 27, at St. George's, Hanover-square, London, by the Rev. Norman Thicknesse, Rector of the Parish, Arthur Douglas Fairgrieve, third son of Edward Henry Bostock, of Glasgow and London, to Vi Selena, younger daughter of the late William Robinson Veevers and Mrs. Veevers, of Green Bat House, Alnwick.

DEATHS.

BRINCKMAN.—On the 28th ult., at St. Saviour's Hospital, Osnaburgh-street, the Reverend Arthur Brinckman. Funeral service, All Saints', Margaret-street, W., 10 o'clock, to-day (Saturday, Feb. 1).

TURNER.—Jan. 17, at his residence at Yardley, near Birmingham, J. W. Turner, founder of the Turner Opera Co., aged 68.

IN MEMORIAM.

LLOYD.—In ever loving memory of Richard William Delarue Lloyd, who passed away Jan. 4, 1899. Also Ramsay Percy Richard Lloyd, youngest son of the above, who fell asleep Jan. 29, 1910. Gone, but not forgotten. 67, Swinton-street, London, W.C.

LUDLOW.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Chas. L. Ludlow, who passed away Jan. 31, 1911.—Agnes St. Clair.

SMITH.—In loving memory of Mary Stafford Smith, who died Jan. 27, 1910. Never forgotten by her daughter, Louie (Mrs. Ernest Shand).

ST. JOHN (Florence).—In saddest, tenderest memory of Margaret Florence Nightingale St. John, beloved friend of Nelly M. Armstrong who passed beyond Jan. 30, 1912. Deeply missed. "I have a wreath of forget-me-nots I'm wearing for thee in my heart."—Your loving Nell.

ST. JOHN.—In loving memory of my mother, Florence St. John, who died Jan. 30, 1912. Mr. and Mrs. R. M. St. John. "Sic transit gloria mundi."

TAYLOR.—In ever loving memory of Will Taylor, who passed away Jan. 29, 1901. Never forgotten by his wife and family.

TRANSFIELD.—In ever loving memory of our dear father, who passed away Feb. 6, 1910, in New York. Never forgotten by his children—Tina, Tony, Cissie, and Florrie.

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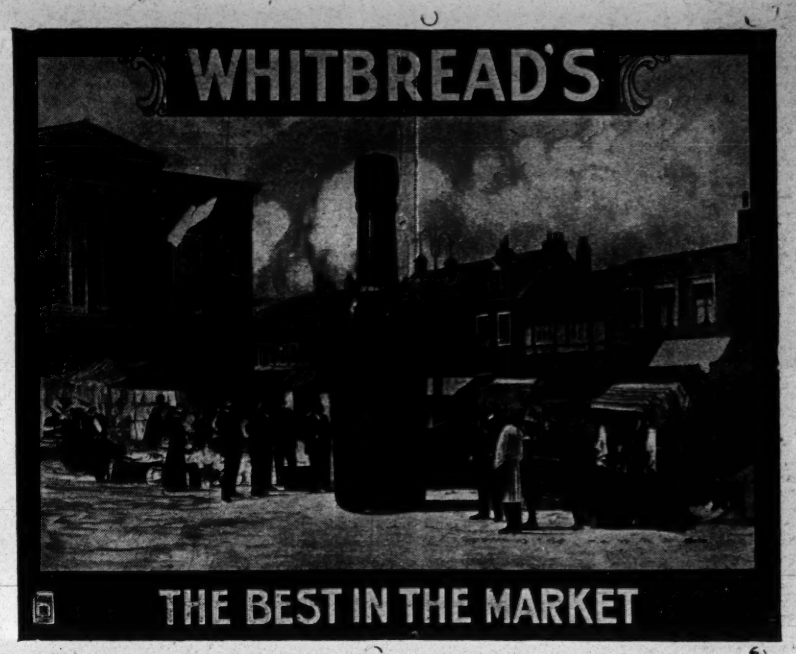
—*Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.*



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—*Henry VI., Act ii., Scene iii.*

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

On Monday last a students' organ recital took place in the afternoon. Mr. Alec Rowley was heard in Max Reger's Introduction and Passacaglia for organ. This was well performed, Mr. Rowley bringing out the full powers of this fine instrument. Miss Muriel R. Crowdy sang two songs, and was most successful in "It was a lover and his lass." The Choral in A minor, organ (César Franck), gave Mr. Hubert S. Middleton an opportunity of showing his progress as organist. A very interesting little piece for harp, "Impromptu Caprice" (Gabriel Fauré), was delicately played by Miss Rachel Wright, and quite pleased her hearers. A duet, "Viens Mallika" (Lakmé), followed, in which Miss Nellie Innes and Miss Nina Aronoff greatly distinguished themselves, keeping well together, and not forcing the upper notes unduly. The organ solo, Prelude and Fugue in G (Bach), was performed by Mr. J. Albert Sowerbutts, who showed a supreme sense of the dignity of the music. The trio by Rossini, "Gratias agimus tibi," was sung in good style by Miss Kathleen Simpson, Mr. Da Costa, and Mr. Foster Richardson, Miss Kathleen Simpson particularly distinguishing herself, and Mr. Da Costa, together with Mr. Richardson, made a very good impression, singing their parts with intelligence, and doing full justice to Rossini's music. The Sonatina in A minor, organ, by Karg-Clert, played by Mr. Horace G. Perry, was a bright and showy piece, and well adapted to show the performer's ability. Miss Elsie Gough sang the "Bell," by Saint Saëns, fairly well, but her diction was so indistinct; otherwise she possesses a good voice, and some dramatic feeling. Other items were a Sonata in C, violoncello, performed by Master Tito Barbirolli, and First Movement from Sonata in G, organ (Elgar), played by Mr. William H. P. Hoare.

Since coming to Kirkcaldy (King's Theatre), Mr. Archer-Gardiner has identified himself with the booking of musical comedy, to the great delight of local playgoers. "The Girl in the Train," "The Mousmé," and "The Girl in the Picture" were consecutive bookings of the last fortnight.

Miss Marjorie Murray, who is starring in America, under the management of Mr. W. A. Brady and Messrs. Shubert, is still enlarging her unique album of photographs taken during her travels. At Niagara Falls recently she succeeded in obtaining some fine pictures by night, and, incidentally, a good "ducking" under the Horseshoe Falls, despite her oilskins. Miss Murray is at present playing Bunty, in "Bunty Pulls the Strings," and travelled from Buffalo after two performances on Saturday to spend a Sunday at the famous waterfall. In love with her part, the country, and in a most charming company, she was the happy recipient of many valuable gifts from her fellow artistes at Christmastide. Miss Murray relates a rather fortunate escape from what might have been a disconcerting experience in a Chicago hotel, where she was, on arrival, allotted a bedroom in which a man had committed suicide only twenty-four hours previously. This state of affairs Miss Murray discovered just in time, and a "quick change" was effected, and the room fell to a later arrival, a non-professional lady, who next morning at breakfast related to Miss Murray how she had endured a most uncomfortable night, being disturbed by the most unaccountable wailing and what appeared to be the shuffling of feet. Miss Murray, who is no believer in the supernatural, confesses that this narrative made her think. On New Year's night Miss Murray had a delightful surprise in the form of a huge bouquet of lovely white roses, with a card, "To our dear Bunty, from the company, with a world of good wishes for 1913."

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The Annual General Meeting of the subscribers will be held on the stage of His Majesty's Theatre on Friday, Feb. 14, 1913, at 11.30 for 12 noon, to receive the report of the Committee and the accounts for the year 1912.
Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree
in the chair.
The attendance of subscribers is requested, and all those interested in the work of the Fund are invited to be present.
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Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree
will preside at Supper,
and many leading members of the profession have promised to be present.
Dancing 10.30. Supper 12.30. Carriages 4.30.
Tickets: One guinea (including supper). Members of the Theatrical and Musical Profession, 15s. each: Double ticket, 25s. Members of A.A., 10s. 6d. each. May be obtained from the Secretary, 32, Regent-street, W. (1753 Gerrard).
SUBSCRIPTIONS.
Members are respectfully requested that all subscriptions for 1913 are now due.
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ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
THE REPORT OF THE COUNCIL
and
ACCOUNTS OF EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS
and
LIABILITIES AND ASSETS
for the year ending Dec. 31, 1913.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Twenty-second ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the ACTORS' ASSOCIATION will be held on TUESDAY, Feb. 11, at 12 noon, at HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE (by kind permission of Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree) for the following purposes, namely:—
To receive a Report of Accounts of Expenditure and Receipts and Liabilities and Assets.
To elect the President and Vice-President.
To elect twenty-five Members of the Council, and to transact any further business of the Association brought before the Meeting by the Council or by any member who shall have given to the Secretary seven days' written notice thereof.
Dated this 21st day of Jan., 1913.
By Order of the Council,
DUNCAN YOUNG,
Secretary.
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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Since the second edition of his work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To every one connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix or Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act, of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up to date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference, by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be PROPRIETOR, MANAGER, or ARTIST, and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

THE ERA, July 30, 1910.
Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue, nine years ago, of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition, just published, comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the new Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artists, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.
The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song-writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features, is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

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PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Adams, Mr. Alfred D.	June 22, 1912
Adams, Mr. Dick	Oct. 14, 1911
Adeson, Mr. Martin	Sept. 14, 1912
Allestree, Miss Mary	July 13, 1912
Arculus	Feb. 24, 1912
Armstrong, Late Mr. W. H.	Sept. 16, 1911
Arnott, Late Mr. Alexander	Feb. 10, 1912
Askwith, Sir G. R.	Sept. 13, 1911
Aspinall, Mr. Cole	Oct. 7, 1911
Aynesworth, Mr. Allan	Aug. 31, 1912
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Bellew, Late Mr. Kyrle	Nov. 4, 1911
Bendall, Mr. Ernest Alfred	Feb. 17, 1912
Berwick, Mr. Geoffrey	Nov. 25, 1911
Bijou, Late Mrs. Peter	Oct. 21, 1911
Bint, Mr. Billie	Nov. 25, 1911
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Blyth-Pratt, Miss Violet	Sept. 7, 1912
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Bransby-Williams, Miss Winifred	Sept. 21, 1912
Brewster, Miss Evelyn	Sept. 7, 1912
Brookfield, Mr. Charles H. E.	Dec. 2, 1911
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Cave, Late Mr. J. A.	Nov. 23, 1912
Cecil, Miss Phyllis	Jan. 13, 1912
Charles, Miss Helen	Sept. 30, 1911
Charlot, M. André	July 13, 1912
Chittock, Late Mr. J.	Feb. 17, 1912
Chute, Late Mr. J. M.	Feb. 24, 1912
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Crawford, Mr. Henry	Nov. 30, 1912
Dane, Miss Ethel	Aug. 3, 1912
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Day, Miss Marjorie	Nov. 2, 1912
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Delaney, Miss Edith	Dec. 7, 1912
Dresden, Mr. Edward	Aug. 3, 1912
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Finck, Mr. Herman	July 6, 1912
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Friend, Late Mr. Wilton	Feb. 17, 1912
Gandy, Late Mr. Sidney	Feb. 17, 1912
Gilday, Mr. Myrom M.	Sept. 16, 1911
Golden, Late Mr. George Fuller	March 16, 1912
Greene, Miss Evie	Sept. 7, 1912
Gregory, Late Mr. Walner	Dec. 30, 1911
Griffies, Miss Ethel	June 1, 1912
Griffis, Mr. Robert	June 22, 1912
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Gulliver, Mr. Charles	July 27, 1912
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Leslie, Mr. Fred	Aug. 3, 1912
Leveaux, Mr. M. V.	July 13, 1912
Lingard, Mr. Oswald	June 15, 1912
Lotinga, Mr. and Mrs. Ernie (Hetty King)	Nov. 9, 1912
Lotto, Late Mr. Alf.	Nov. 2, 1912
Lovell, Miss Florence	Dec. 9, 1911
Lowe, Miss Mabel	Sept. 23, 1911
Lyons, Mr. Harry	Jan. 13, 1912
Maas, Miss Hilda	June 22, 1912
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Mayer, Mr. Ernest	Oct. 14, 1911
Mayne, Mr. Eric	Aug. 24, 1912
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McKay, Jock	July 27, 1912
Meyer, Mr. Bertie A.	Jan. 13, 1912
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Mollison, Late Mr. William	Dec. 23, 1911
Morley, Mr. Robertson	Jan. 27, 1912
Moss, Late Sir Edward	Nov. 30, 1912
Moyes, Mr. Frederick	Sept. 2, 1911
Newsome, Late Mr. James	Jan. 6, 1912
Nora, Miss Nellie	Aug. 31, 1912
Parker, Mr. Frank	March 16, 1912
Paton, Mr. Mark	July 13, 1912
Pearson, Mr. Herbert	Nov. 11, 1911
Penley, Late Mr. W. S.	Nov. 16, 1912
Permane, Captain	June 15, 1912
Poole, Mr. Frank	Sept. 30, 1911
Pounds, Mr. Courtice	Aug. 10, 1912
Powell, Mr. Templer	May 11, 1912
Rae, Mr. George	Feb. 3, 1912
Reed, Late Mr. F. A.	Jan. 20, 1912
Relph, Miss Phyllis	Oct. 26, 1912
Richards, Miss Josephine	Aug. 17, 1912
Rickards, Late Mr. Harry	Oct. 14, 1911
Rignold, Late Mr. George	Dec. 21, 1912
Romaine, Miss Claire	Dec. 23, 1911
Ross, Mr. Fredk.	Oct. 5, 1912
Ross, Mr. J. Halford	Dec. 16, 1911
Randegger, Late Signor Alberto	Dec. 23, 1911
Saker, Late Mrs. Edward	Feb. 10, 1912
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St. John, Mr. Gale	July 20, 1912
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Swallow Miss Margaret	Aug. 24, 1912
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Tschaikowsky, Miss Vera	Nov. 9, 1912
Tymes, The	Feb. 10, 1912
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Vondi, Miss Zella	Sept. 2, 1911
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Wilkinson, Miss Poppy	Nov. 25, 1911
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Wix, Miss Florence	Feb. 24, 1912
Wright, Late Mr. Fred.	Oct. 21, 1911
Wright, Mr. Lawrence	Dec. 2, 1911
Wynne, Miss Wish	Aug. 12, 1911
Zets, The Two (Leo and Dolly)	Dec. 30, 1911

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1913.

ARE ACTORS GRAMOPHONES?

In a recent issue we printed extracts from an amusing, if unfounded, article in "The New Age." It was headed "Granville Barker's Gramophones," and in it, Mr. BARKER was described as having adopted a system which was producing a new and automatic type of actor. He was said to have built this system of production on the assumption that he, by reading a play, could conceive precisely what effect the author wished to produce on his audience. He then was described as engaging actors and actresses physically suited to the various characters, and, in six weeks of rehearsals, making them reflect the conception of the play with which he himself was saturated. "The actor for Mr. BARKER," said the writer of the article, "is nothing more than a gramophone record made during rehearsals by Mr. BARKER himself."

In our introduction to our extract from the article we defended Mr. BARKER against the accusations in the article from which we quoted, but, inaccurate as it may have been, it raised the very interesting question—how far can the actor and actress be left to give their own readings of their parts? The system erroneously attributed by "An Actor" to Mr. GRANVILLE BARKER is not a new one. It was carried to perfection under the iron rule of the late W. S. GILBERT, at the Savoy Theatre; and it is, we understand, still practised by Sir A. W. PINERO. There is a good deal to be said in its favour. The play is the creation of the author; and he—or in the case of his decease, of his vicegerent here on earth, the manager—is most likely to know what impression he desires to create. There is no doubt that much of the effect of GILBERT'S matchless satire and literary humour would have been missed had his pieces been played in a different spirit, and with less elaborate instructions. Yet even Sir W. S. GILBERT allowed certain actors what Lady Franklin in "Money" would have called "strange liberties." Some scope, for instance, had to be permitted to the genius of a GROSSMITH, who was the reverse of a gramophone actor. Nor was the system of production entirely destructive of originality. Mr. RUTLAND BARRINGTON, since he ceased to appear in GILBERT and SULLIVAN opera, has done good work "on his own," and, as a rule, when the Savoy-trained artist emerged from his leading strings, he was able to walk as well as others, and in some cases a good deal better. In one department, that of delivery, the Gilbertian system worked very well indeed. One of "W. S. G.'s" ways was to post himself in the pit or gallery at a rehearsal and administer to the indistinct actor or actress the Gilbertian equivalent of "Speak up!" which was invariably couched in phrases of gentle, if piquant, courtesy; for GILBERT, however, severe he was at times on others, was always "kind and considerate down to the very humblest" in his dealings with the profession.

There are two ways of playing a part—superficially, or thoughtfully. You can learn the words, say, of a character like Octavius Cæsar in "Antony and Cleopatra" and "depict" the personage in a manly, straightforward, walking-gentleman way; or you may make a study of Octavius, find out his parentage, "mug him up," as they say at school, in MACCULLUM'S "Shakespeare's Roman Plays," and CONSON'S "Introduction to Shakespeare," and bring yourself to realise that in the youthful Octavius there was the germ of the adult Augustus. If the actor is too much occupied to be able to afford time to do this, "someone has got to do it," if a full and complete result is to be obtained; and the work must be performed by the author or the "scholarly" manager.

The defect of the system is that it encourages mechanical acting, and discourages originality. If EDMUND KEAN, when he played Shylock at Drury Lane, had previously been rehearsed by a contemporary manager on the gramophone system, many of the flashes of lightning with which he illuminated Shakespeare's work would undoubtedly have been lost. Another defect is that the system robs a revival of much of the pleasure which comes of surprise. When the gramophone system is in vogue at a theatre, we know pretty well before the first night of the revival what the reading of the parts will be like. They will bear the stamp of the producer-manager's mind and the producer-manager's temperament; and so one is deprived of the pleasure which comes of curious anticipation. Another danger is, as we have said, that the artiste, having become accustomed to depend on the author and producer for ideas, may find it hard, when deprived of his inspiration, to engender ideas of their own. But, in practice, we repeat, this does not often happen. Miss IRENE VANBRUGH, who has been a willing and successful "victim" of the PINERO system of years, shows, when not appearing in a PINERO play, an amount of invention and originality which rivals that of her gifted sister, who from her position may be considered to be almost entirely free to follow her own impulses, conceptions, and desires.

The fact seems to be that the "gramophone" system is a "good familiar creature when well used." That is to say, that it is excellent for those who have no originality, and powerless to quench the fire of stronger spirits. It is a test of genius. It supplies a want in the mediocre, and genius will always be able to break away from it at the proper time. To those who realise how much workmanship goes for in every art, how much drudgery is necessary to produce a masterpiece, and above all, that a dramatic performance is a *whole*, and not a "thing of shreds and patches," however bright and brilliant each may be in itself, the article in "The New Age" will seem necessary.

"JOSEPH AND HIS BRETHREN."

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT)

This pageant play, in four acts, by Louis N. Parker, was performed for the first time on the afternoon of the 11th ult. at the Century Theatre. It has been the author's aim to follow the Biblical narrative sympathetically, and that he has not failed in his purpose is indicated by the tone of the notices published by the leading newspapers. The New York "Times" pronounces it "the most remarkable play from Scripture that has ever been shown on our stage," and the "Herald" praises it for being "convincing both as a spectacle and a Biblical play." Thirteen scenes are required to tell the story, the play being divided into four parts. It is said that the cast is composed of no fewer than five hundred persons. Mr. Brandon Tynan acts the title part, and his performance has received the highest praise. Mr. James O'Neill appears both as Jacob and Pharaoh, and Miss Pauline Frederick, who is noted for her beauty, is seen as Zuleika, Potiphar's wife. Other well-known players in the cast are Mr. Howard Kyle, who has the rôle of Simeon; Mr. Harvey Braban, who plays the part of Reuben; and Mr. Frank Losee, who impersonates Potiphar. Miss Dorothy Parker appears as Tamai, chief maid-in-waiting to Zuleika. Miss Violet Romer contributes some excellent dancing. The thirteen scenes formed a series of effective and gorgeous pictures. In respect of costuming, scenery, incidental music and smaller details the spirit and atmosphere of the play were admirably maintained throughout the performance, which occupied a space of three hours. In the stage version of the familiar story Potiphar's wife is introduced under the name of Zuleika. The costumes worn by Miss Frederick in this character were superb in colour and design. The second act is largely devoted to the story of Zuleika's plot against Potiphar and her temptation of Joseph. There are four scenes in this act, two of which—a view of Potiphar's garden and Zuleika's room—are particularly beautiful. A most effective scene occurs when Joseph is brought before Pharaoh from the dungeon in which he has been immured for two years. To mention all the other incidents of the play would be to repeat the familiar Bible story, for the author has adhered quite closely to Scripture. Suffice it to say, then, that the story of Joseph is unfolded in a highly interesting manner and shows his ultimate triumph, when he interprets the dreams of Pharaoh and is rewarded with a new name and new honours by the grateful monarch. The performance throughout moved with extraordinary smoothness for such a big production, and the general effect was extremely satisfactory, the various characters being faithfully represented. The author had to appear and express his thanks after the curtain fell, and Mr. George C. Tyler was so well pleased with the performance that he distributed a large sum of money amongst the stage hands.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"The Foundations of a National Drama." A collection of lectures, essays, and speeches, delivered and written in the years 1896-1912. By Henry Arthur Jones. 358 pages. Price 7s. 6d. net. Published by Chapman and Hall, Ltd.

"Makeshifts and Realities." By Gertrude Robins. 63 pages. Price 1s. net. Published by T. Werner Laurie, Ltd.

"Turandot, Princess of China." A Chinoserie in Three Acts, by Karl Vollmoeller. 128 pages. Price 1s. net. Published by T. Fisher Unwin.

"A Dictionary of English Slang and Colloquialisms." By Arthur H. Dawson. 213 pages. Price 1s. net. Published by Messrs. George Routledge and Sons, Ltd.

"Passers-By." A Play in four acts by C. Haddon Chambers. 139 pages. Price 1s. 6d. net. Published by Duckworth and Co.

Plays by August Strindberg: "Creditors," "Pariah." Translated from the Swedish with introductions by Edwin Bjorkman. Price 2s. net. Published by Duckworth and Co.

"The Poetry Review." Edited by Stephen Phillips. For February. Price 6d. net. Published by the Poetry Society.

"The Pearl Stringer." By Peggy Webling. 313 pages. Price 6s. Published by Messrs. Methuen and Co., Ltd.

"The Memoirs of Mimosa." By Herself. Edited by Anne Elliott. 350 pages. Price 6s. net. Published by Stanley Paul and Co.

"The Annual Licensing Practice, 1913." By R. M. Montgomery, M.A. (Oxon); assisted by E. A. Parry, B.A. (Cantab). 950 pages. Price 15s. net. Published by Messrs. Sweet and Maxwell, Ltd.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

INTERVIEW WITH LADY GOMME.

Lady Gomme is the wife of Sir George Laurence Gomme, the Clerk of the London County Council and the great authority on Folk-lore. She is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund, and is a prominent supporter of the London Shakespeare League, which, by its attempts to start a small theatre in London for the performance of Shakespeare's works, partly suggested the idea of the National Theatre.

Lady Gomme corroborates the statements by Mr. Wm. Poel which we published in "The Era" last week. "The cause of the delay," she says, "is the difference of opinion which exists on the committee. The great majority of us are strongly in favour of the memorial to Shakespeare taking the form of a theatre, but there are others who either prefer the statue idea or fancy that their private interests might be injured by the erection of the National Theatre. To these differences of opinion is added the obstacle that Mr. Israel Gollancz, the honorary secretary, who appears to be the chief possessor of power, is, to put it mildly, not enthusiastic in admiration of the National Theatre idea."

"Do you agree with what Mr. Poel has said as to the system of secrecy which has been adopted in connection with the Fund?"

"Absolutely and entirely. I am myself connected with a good many other committees for various purposes, and on each of these we have some definite object for which to meet, and are informed of what has been, and is being, done for that object. On the Executive Committee of the National Theatre Fund we are kept absolutely in the dark, especially as to money."

"Who is in possession of financial authority? Who has the power, in short, to authorise expenditure?"

"There, again, I am uninformed. It is one of the extraordinary things in connection with this so-called Executive Committee that we are kept in ignorance of all that an ordinary Executive Committee is always allowed to know."

"Putting criticism aside for the moment, have you any ideas of your own in connection with the promotion of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre?"

"Yes. I should have liked, directly after the Lyceum meeting, to have appealed to the general public and have raised, say, a million shillings, by subscription—a plan similar to that advocated in 'The Era' last week. I think the National Theatre should be built and maintained with the money of the English people. And I should have liked to have seen some of this money raised by a touring Shakespearean company, who could have gone round the country giving performances for the good of the Fund. Unless, as I am told, the feeling in the profession is against the National Theatre?"

"Should we not say, rather, that distrust arising from the earlier acts of the Fund made some of us sceptical?"

"Possibly. At any rate, the advantages to the profession of the establishment of a National Theatre have been many times mentioned."

"Can you imagine any reason for the system of secrecy that has been adopted?"

"None, as to the publication of accounts and the reporting of progress. Some reticence has, of course, to be employed in connection with the selection of a site, as, immediately it becomes known that the Fund favours a position, the price of that property rises rapidly. But this does not apply to general information and the publication of accounts of expenditure. I have no doubt that there is nothing that need be concealed; then why conceal it?"

"Do you see any objection to the action of 'The Era' in the matter?"

"None whatever; on the contrary, I think you are supplying just the needed stimulus, and applying it just at the right moment. If any more money is to be raised, we must have some definite announcement to make to the public; we must show that some progress, however slight, is being made. I hope the theatrical profession will not be lukewarm in the matter, but will express themselves as a body in favour of a National Theatre, which, it should be remembered, may develop easily into a system of pensions and positions for deserving and eminent actors. But I will ask you to postpone further comment on the methods of the Fund until next week. There will be a committee meeting to-morrow"—this was said on Thursday—"and it is quite possible that the protests you and Mr. Wm. Poel have made—to say nothing of myself—may have some effect in accelerating the movements of those in authority over us. At the best, the difficulties are very great."

"But you don't think the present system of 'marking time' is the way to overcome them?"

"Certainly not; otherwise we might postpone the erection of a National Theatre *sine die*."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In common with a good many people to whom I have spoken on the subject, I think it is high time that some effort was made to galvanise life into the semi-moribund National Theatre movement. The methods hitherto followed by this organisation have partaken too much of the "hole-and-corner" order of things, but I hope that the searching articles you have lately published will end this policy of obscurity, and cause the committee to realise that they have a duty to perform to the public.

We are by nature a people "gey ill in the uptake," and are not as a rule ready to welcome any new idea; but the suggestion of a National Theatre to the memory of our greatest intellectual asset, William Shakespeare, is one which I am convinced is only to be properly advertised and made known to be seized upon and eagerly supported by large numbers of people. As we all know, there is a great proportion of people to whom the ordinary "box-office" play of modern days does not appeal—people who habitually keep away from theatres, because the latter do not satisfy their intellectual cravings. These people—a large and increasing class, as I am convinced—are the very public who would welcome a movement which had for object the endowment of a theatre where the plays of the greatest of the Elizabethans would form a permanent feature of the répertoire.

I maintain that nothing has hitherto been done by the National Theatre Fund to attract the support of this highly intelligent section of society, but that, on the contrary, the aims of the movement—nay, its very existence—have been kept quiet, instead of being continually brought to the notice of the public by means of advertisements, leaflets, lectures, and performances in aid. As a member of the non-professional public, taking a keen interest in the higher appeals of the theatre, I deny that, as was stated in a professional paper a week or two back, "from the first the aim has been to court publicity, and so to foster the growth of public opinion." The aim, indeed, may have been there, but it is the efforts to attain it that have been lacking.

If, indeed, the committee of the proposed National Theatre really desire to get the support of the public generally, they should indicate that determination by adopting some such course as that proposed in your issue of the 18th. The scheme there propounded for raising funds for the proposed theatre is one truly democratic in character and excellent in every way.

Any undertaking which shall fittingly commemorate our greatest dramatist and poet must, to succeed, appeal, like the great thinker's work itself, to both great and small, rich and poor, gentle and simple. It must gain the favour both of the man in the street and the man in the club. Up to the present I fear the movement has been one which bears too much the marks of what the average person would stigmatise as a "classy" affair. It may be, as one is informed, that on the committee there are actors, actor-managers, and managers, dramatists and critics, together with representatives of the State, law, art, literature, scholarship, rank, fashion, and such like. These may all be very estimable persons—too estimable and respectable, indeed, for businesslike methods, energetic work, and popular appeal. The fact remains that there seems to be no representatives of the masses of the people of no particular account who would form the backbone of the audiences of the proposed theatre, and who, to make it a living and growing concern, should have a big voice in its management. Only by recognising the claims of this section of the people can the movement ever hope to attain an existence other than that of respectable and conventional dullness, which is too often the atmosphere of societies or movements engineered by the "classes" in contrast with the "masses."

In my belief a scheme of small contributions by large numbers, similar to that proposed in your pages, must be adopted if the National Theatre is to become a vital reality. Once let it be announced that each subscriber of a shilling is to have a share in the concern and it is my opinion that you will not have to wait long to see the memorial theatre rise amidst our streets, a fair and worthy monument to a poet whose words are closely interwoven in the mental texture of thousands of our fellow-citizens. One word more. To some it may appear ridiculous to give an interest to subscribers of so small an amount as one shilling. But in Germany, where so many ideals—visionary as yet with our conservative and slow-thinking classes—have become hard realities, such a state of things exists. As witness the following facts. There is a people's theatre society in Berlin, organised on a co-operative basis, which, during the last three years, has collected among its members (consisting wholly of working people) the sum of £27,533 towards the building of a theatre. How have they done this? By subscriptions of ten pfennigs (5d.) in extra payment for each performance attended by the members. Those who subscribe this small sum will be entitled to a dividend upon it when the theatre is in working order. Altogether, the society has collected something like £29,500.

What prevents a similar scheme being worked to a like success over here? If the committee of the National Theatre indeed desire to make a success of their movement they should instantly adopt such a popular plan, and thus give evidence that they really have the interests of the Memorial Theatre at heart.—Yours faithfully,

London, S.E. RICHARD NORREYS.

January 29, 1913.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—May I, as a member of the playgoing public, say a few words on the question of the National Theatre which has been so ably ventilated in your columns of the 25th inst. and previously?

I have not yet subscribed to the Fund, with the object of which I am nevertheless in ardent sympathy, and for the following reasons:—Firstly, I have not been asked; that is to say, that no appeal reached me directly or indirectly sufficiently forcible to induce me to subscribe in a hurry at the time it was first started.

Secondly, the total absence of any information as to the progress of the scheme is more than sufficient to deter me, and thousands like me, from contributing since.

Now it is evident that no scheme of this description can possibly be brought to a successful issue without the co-operation of the play-going public, or, at all events, of that section thereof which takes an intelligent interest in the National Drama. This section, though possibly small, might easily be extended and enlarged if those responsible for the promotion and carrying out of the scheme adopted ordinary business methods of advertising their objects and educating the ordinary playgoer into taking a real interest therein.

Not only do the Committee apparently decline to *say* anything; they no less apparently refrain from *doing* anything.

As regards their silence, there is really nothing to be added to your scathing indictment, except that there is no doubt that had the affair been run on business lines from the start, those in whose hands the large sums already subscribed are held would by now be responsible by law for an account of the money. The directors of a commercial company acting on the present lines would have found themselves long ere this in a very unpleasant position did they thus persistently refuse any account of their stewardship.

Their inactivity is even more blameworthy. Apart from a few meetings soon after the inception of the scheme (to which the general public was by no means cordially invited), what has been done? Has the public ever really been asked to co-operate? Is the public's money really wanted? Or is the whole scheme merely brought about to provide comfortable berths and "palatial offices" for incompetent relatives of the promoters? To read between the lines of your interview with that true enthusiast Mr. Poel, is to get a very uncomfortable idea indeed of what is going on.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones in his recently published book on the subject of the National Drama deplores the apathy of the public, and considers that we in this country are not yet ripe or ready for a National Theatre—that is to say, that the English playgoing public is lagging behind that of every other civilised European country in intelligence. There is much truth in this contention, but if this scheme fizzles out and fails, it will not be primarily on this account, but entirely owing to the maladministration, obstinacy, and stupidity of those responsible for it. If without our interest, help, and support they cannot succeed, then they must try and deserve all three. They will never obtain these by their present policy of saying nothing and doing nothing.—Yours faithfully,

A LOVER OF SHAKESPEARE.

January 30, 1913.

THE ACTING OF GREAT ACTORS.

BY THE EDITOR.

No. IV.—DAVID GARRICK.

Garrick is an example of plasticity in an actor carried to the *n*th power. Physically he was almost without individuality. His whole person was at the service of the character he was representing. Grimm said he was *naturellement singe*, but this was an unfair statement. A monkey imitates as a parrot talks by note. Garrick, by a process of imagination, absorbed himself in the personage he represented. He acted as a painter of genius draws—by nature, by eye, by instinct. To this intuitive perception was joined a marvellous elasticity of feature. The anecdotes about his practical jokes by the aid of this elasticity, of his getting in at one side of a hackney coach and getting out the other apparently another person, of his contorting his face and sitting to Hogarth for a portrait of Fielding after the latter's death, and of his ringing the changes of facial play through a variety of impersonations—his "rounds"—may be exaggerated, but all point to his wonderful plasticity.

Of all faces of great actors Garrick's is the least striking and individual. It is a medium face, a canvas on which any expression can be painted. His symmetrical figure, the perfect grace and harmony of his gestures and attitudes all show a mime of the first order, with all the necessary means at his disposal, and all of them completely at his command.

His Indifference to Dignity.

Garrick undoubtedly did himself some injury in the opinion of posterity by the careless facility with which he would give an example of his technical skill to private gatherings or to children. But it is the little men, not the great ones, who are so very careful not to "give themselves away." It is the King who is not ashamed to be found playing at horses with his youngsters, and the great painter who loves to draw caricatures for his friends. What with these free-and-easy frolics of Garrick's, Dr. Johnson's attacks, and a certain amount of self-advertisement, which, as a practical manager, Garrick undoubtedly indulged in, we of the twentieth century are likely to have our eyes blurred in estimating his real genius.

In one particular Garrick differed from most of his profession. He acted a part without being overcome by it. He broke off in a scene in tears to remark to King, "Tom, it will do; I see it in their eyes." He is said to have stated that an actor should be able to woo a post with the same feelings and expression as the most beautiful Juliet. This was quite different from Mrs. Siddons, who kept "in the character" up to the fall of the curtain, and from Macready, who used to wrestle with a ladder before coming on as Shylock.

Was this a superiority or the reverse? The question has been fully discussed by Mr. William Archer in "Masks and Faces," and there is no room to repeat his remarks or those of the actors and actresses whom he consulted. But there is one thing to be said about Garrick's remark to King. It is at the times of greatest tension that men indulge in the most commonplace remarks as a relief from that tension. Hamlet's "Well said, old mole!" spoken at a moment when he was writhing with awe and anguish, is a case in point.

The perfection of Garrick's technique and his indifference to his personal dignity make it difficult for us at the present day to imagine the effect of his acting. Dr. Johnson, an unsuccessful dramatist who left off going behind the scenes because, as he himself remarked, his nature was too sensual to enable him to meet a pretty woman décolletée without his worst propensities being excited; Johnson who had all the jealousy of a social lion who is out-lionised by an animal of a different species, endeavoured, of course in vain, to belittle Garrick. He told Boswell that "anybody" could speak "To be, or not to be" as well as Garrick did, made himself rather ridiculous by this and other observations, and got the worst of the argument in every case. But, in spite of this, the most distinct impressions of Garrick that have come down to us are derived from Johnson's blundering and prejudiced attacks, from the anecdotes above referred to, and from the accounts of the Shakespeare Jubilee.

There is one answer to all objections to Garrick as an actor—he was a great success as Lear. The part is a terrifically difficult one. It is a case of the sublime trembling on the verge of the ridiculous. It is playing all or nothing. Either the actor over-awes his audience, or he fails. That Garrick was great in parts like Lear and Macbeth brushes away at once all suspicions that he was a merely clever actor.

His Secret.

His secret was very simple—to a genius. Without analysing a part or writing essays about it, he simply, by the exercise of a most powerful imagination, "got inside" the character and acted accordingly. This is the reason of Garrick's intense irritability at, and susceptibility to, interruptions in the audience. Like Macbeth, as described by Banquo, he was "wrapt" in the character he played. He was like a somnambulist; if he was awakened the spell was broken. This may seem, at first glance, a contradiction of what I have written above; but attention is not the same as sentiment. Garrick's great art, as Grimm wrote, was to put himself in the position of the personage, to pass into a condition, as it were, of temporary insanity. Second-rate artistes cannot do this; they have not enough imagination, and the necessity of attending to their technique troubles them too much. But Garrick, whose technique was his slave, and not his master; Garrick, whose every gesture was so easily done that, as a German critic put it, he "seemed to be all right hand," had no need to think of this. Like a prima donna who can roll off the most difficult passage of music *sans façon*, Garrick, freed from troubling about technique, was able to give full scope to his imagination.

It had a very wide scope. In most actors this function of the brain works only in one department; hence the division into tragedians and comedians. But in the case of Garrick it was unlimited. And, after all, when one comes to think of it, why should it not be so? It is as easy to imagine yourself Sir John Brute or Abel Drugger as it is to fancy yourself Macbeth or King Lear. You have only, as Charles Lamb said, to "have the mind." The possession of this "mind" was quite evident to Garrick's contemporaries. They had the "object lesson" too often given to them at the theatre to ever forget it. But there is more risk lest we of the present day may overlook and underrate the genius of this great man, who was more careless of his fame than any actor I remember, and who, perhaps, found a positive relief, like the philosopher of old, in playing the fool to ease himself.

Garrick, it is interesting to mention just now, was a great "producer." A warm testimony to his merit in this capacity came from an actress, Kitty Clive, who wrote:—"I have seen you with your magic hammer in your hand, endeavouring to beat your ideas into the heads of creatures who had none of their own. I have seen you, with lamb-like patience, endeavouring to make them comprehend you, and I have seen you when that could not be done—I have seen your lamb turned into a lion; by this your great labour and pains the public was entertained; *they* thought they all acted very fine; they did not see you pull the wires."

VARIETY GOSSIP

Announcements of the definite appointment of Mr. James Sale to the position of musical director at the Alhambra having appeared in two of our contemporaries, we are asked by Messrs. Charlot and Leveaux to state that Mr. James Sale has not applied for the position, nor have they entered into any negotiations with him concerning it.

Miss Jessie Mallward has engaged a strong company to support her in the American success "In the Gray of the Dawn," which she is presenting on her re-appearance in London on Monday, Feb. 10, at the Chelsea Palace, amongst them being Miss Lilian French, Miss Rose Morison, Miss Bessie Hayes, and Miss Winifred Pearson; Mr. Cecil Morton York, Mr. William Dunlop, Mr. Johnny Watson, and Mr. Walter Gay.

We regret to learn that Mr. Fred Williams, who a few years ago was a popular comedian, who successfully appeared in pantomime at the theatres and in sketches at the halls, has fallen upon evil times, and is, indeed, in necessitous circumstances. Mr. Williams seems to have had more than his share of ill-luck. In addition to a coach accident at Liverpool some years ago, he has recently undergone two serious surgical operations, which has incapacitated him from further work, and he has now to be wheeled about in an arm-chair.

On retiring from his profession Mr. Williams went to live at Clacton-on-Sea, where he became the proprietor of a boarding establishment, but this and other speculations proved very unfortunate. A local committee of gentlemen, with Mr. H. K. Newton, M.P., at its head, has been formed, and an appeal to the profession has been issued on behalf of Mr. Williams. Arrangements are being made to give him two benefit concerts at the Palace Theatre, Clacton, on Monday and Tuesday, the 24th and 25th inst. Some of Mr. Williams's old friends in the profession will no doubt be glad to assist so deserving a cause; and contributions will be thankfully received and acknowledged by the hon. sec., Mr. F. C. Nash, manager of the Clacton Palace of Varieties.

"Arsène Lupin" will figure for the first time on a music hall stage next week at the London Pavilion. M. Maurice le Blanc has written specially for Mr. Henri de Vries (whose remarkable performance in "A Case of Arson" will not readily be forgotten), a new exploit of the famous French crook. In this, Arsène Lupin is engaged in an attempt to secure possession of a necklace of pearls, which are at the time of the exploit located in an artist's studio. In his endeavours to outwit the police, Arsène even makes love to the artist's daughter, and a number of ingenious devices are used in the course of the playlet.

The departure of Miss Elise Clerc for South Africa has now been definitely fixed for Saturday, Feb. 8, from Southampton. The full company travelling with her numbers something about fifty. Since it was announced that Miss Clerc had decided to accept this appointment—with one of the largest theatrical combinations in South Africa—many expressions of goodwill and good luck have been received by her from managers, artistes, pupils, and personal friends.

The company, fully rehearsed in London, is the largest exported from England to Africa, and this speaks volumes when we state that Miss Clerc has been engaged as producer, ballet mistress, stage directress, principal artiste and mime, with absolute control of all matters connected with the stage. Such is the confidence placed in her by the directorate of the Palladium Theatres, Ltd., South Africa. With only two days to spare after arrival, the theatre opens, and the company, thoroughly conversant with their work, will open in a new building and with a first audience early in March.

The division of the Alhambra revue, "Kill That Fly!" into two parts, with a short interval at ten o'clock, has proved so popular that Messrs. Charlot and Leveaux have arranged for it to be permanent. The new scene, "Ascot Ups and Downs," which has been compressed, is a riot of racecourse revelry. Business at the Alhambra has reached high-water mark, and the house wears a more prosperous look than has been known for years.

Miss Alice Crawford is appearing this week at the Manchester Hippodrome in "The Little Devil Chooses," a comedy sketch, by Frederick A. Stanley, which deals with an incident in the life of Kitty Clive. Miss Crawford, who, of course, plays the famous actress, is Australian born, and made her first appearance in this country with Mr. Wilson Barrett in 1902. From that time on she has played leading parts with all the most prominent actor-managers in London, including Sir George Alexander, Mr. Forbes-Robertson, Mr. Granville Barker, and in April, 1907, she went to His Majesty's, where she remained for four years with Sir Herbert Tree, playing in Shakespearean revivals and the part of Drusilla Ives in the reproduction of "The Dancing Girl."

Mr. Fernand Akoun has resigned his position as managing-director of the London Opera House, but the policy so wisely instituted by Mr. Ben Nathan, the general-manager, will be continued, and the high quality of the entertainment maintained. Next week Yorke and Adams will be at the top of the bill. During the current week Carl Hertz, the famous illusionist, has been making a hit. We are promised a big revue by Mr. Nathan in the near future. Ben should know something about revues, though the producing will be done, so we are given to understand, by a gentleman from the States.

This is to be the year of the American boom, and something like 130 acts are coming over from the States. Whether this invasion of our cousins across the sea will result in a surfeit of rag-time remains to be seen; but from Mr. Alfred Butt's confession to an interviewer it may be regarded as certain that as an impresario he is more convinced than ever of the necessity of acts from across the pond at the Palace. The success of "Hullo, Rag-time!" has done something to lift American comedy into popularity, and Mr. Albert de Courville has engaged Mr. George Bickel, a prominent member of the popular Ziegfeld's Follies, to appear at the Hippodrome.

London is once again to possess a building which will be devoted all the year round to the purposes of the production of circus performances. A site has been purchased in a central position, readily accessible from all parts; plans have already been drawn up, and the new house, which is to be opened in the spring of next year, will, when finished, be one of the largest—if not quite the largest—place devoted solely to entertainment in the metropolis. Seating accommodation will be provided for 6,000 spectators, and all the productions will be presented upon a colossal scale hitherto unattempted in this country. The prime mover in this latest venture is Mr. C. B. Cochran, who, it will be remembered, was responsible for the production of Professor Reinhardt's "Miracle" at Olympia, and also the "Big Circus" at Earl's Court Exhibition last year.

We regret to hear of the sudden death of the sister of Miss Ray Ford, who has received much sympathy in her severe bereavement.

It is understood in Glasgow amusement circles that a marriage has been arranged between Mr. Fred Barnes and Miss Ida Valli, who are also in the Royal pantomime.

Miss Gwladys Soman, who is playing principal boy in the Theatre Royal pantomime, Glasgow, "The House That Jack Built," announces her engagement to Mr. Bert Feldman, of London, the "rag-time king," who has made quite a fortune since the rag-time craze started with his publications of rag-time music. According to present arrangements, the wedding will take place in Glasgow, before the close of the pantomime run. This is Miss Soman's first pantomime season in Glasgow, and she has made herself very popular with Theatre Royal audiences.

Mme. Slapoffski, recognised as Australia's representative prima donna, and who is also widely known throughout America, has been creating something like a sensation at the Wood Green Empire during the week. This remarkable artiste (a term happily applied) should certainly feel delighted at the enthusiastic reception accorded her at each performance. Once again the Stoll management have drawn a "sure winner."

A new Palace for Manchester has for some time been under consideration, and a scheme is on foot to give it a definite shape. There are still details to be settled, but a scheme for the entire reconstruction of the interior of the Palace has, we understand, been decided upon.

The Palace at present holds over 3,000 people, but the new hall will seat 4,000, and every seat will be comfortable and bookable in advance. There will be capacious waiting-rooms to accommodate the early comers. The dress circle will be brought twelve feet forward, the promenade at the rear will be dispensed with in favour of seats, and the form of the whole will be triangular, instead of semi-circular, as at present. The capacity will be increased from 300 to 600. The floor area will consist of pit stalls and orchestral stalls, the number of stalls being nearly doubled.

Part of the present "grotto" behind the circle is to be replaced by a large standing area. The gallery will be considerably lowered, and this will assist in the provision of additional exits, of which there will be a great number. There will be a number of spacious promenades, including the greater part of the existing circle "grotto." Every part of the house will be sumptuously redecorated, so that the new Palace promises to equal in every respect the higher class of London music hall. The plans, which have already been passed, are the work of Mr. Bertie Crewe, who is responsible for several of London's most famous amusement houses. The work will be commenced soon after Whit week, and, it is hoped, completed about four months later.

Dr. Walford Bodie still continues his triumphal march through Bonnie Scotland. Last week, at Theatre Royal, Coatbridge, he broke all records for the building since it was built, even beating the New Year holiday week. The huge theatre was packed each night from floor to ceiling at early door prices, all the upper and dress circle being booked in advance at raised prices. Never in the annals of amusement in Coatbridge have such scenes been witnessed, and this, despite the fact it was the doctor's tenth visit to the town. This week he is at the Paisley Theatre, and next week returns to the King's Theatre, Greenock, his ninth visit to the town.

Mr. Jimmy Milburn, the grandfather of Ouida Macdermott, has been established for some time now as manager of the Newport Empire, and has been receiving congratulations from patrons and friends on the completion of the alterations made to that house—namely, the removal of the dress circle boxes, which has resulted in greater comfort and convenience. There has been no necessity for any closure. In case of the absence of any of the turns Jimmy can always oblige with a bit of Irish comedy and an illigant taste of a jig.

Mr. James E. Norrie, who was one of the most popular sentimental singers on the halls, died after a long illness on Sunday last at Burnley. In the mid nineties Jimmy Norrie was at the zenith of his popularity. Pioneered by Will Oliver, he made a success wherever he appeared in "Terry" and other well-known ballads. He had a particularly sweet voice, and was a great favourite at the Alhambra. His health broke down some years ago, and for some time he has been an invalid. When Norrie left home as a youngster he took to the sea, and used to beguile the "larboard watch" with his melodious voice. While in America he left his ship and joined a minstrel troupe.

An old friend writes of Norrie as follows:—"The star of Jimmy Norrie rose rapidly. In March, 1895, Mr. 'Billy' Grimes, then mine host of the Crown, Westminster Bridge-road, gave a supper in honour of the twentieth member of the 'J's' Society being made. After the supper a merry concert took place, and here, for the first time, 'Jimmie' Norrie sang. What a surprise! His selections were 'Two little girls in blue' and 'Sally in our alley.' Several agents were present, but Will Oliver (Oliver and Holmes) secured the prize, and after interviewing the late George Adney Payne, secured Norrie an opening on the Monday at the Canterbury.

Those present at the concert included such old habitués of the Canterbury as Willie Dunkley, Harry Cooper, George Harris, and others, who sent the news round like wildfire, and when Jimmie made his bow to an English audience he was dumbfounded at his reception. Soon afterwards Oliver and Holmes secured him a long exclusive engagement at the Alhambra, and 'Sally' was the hit all the time. His name, like his songs, became very popular all over London, and in every hole and corner of the United Kingdom could be heard the refrains of 'Only one girl' and 'Terry.'

"A few years ago his health broke down, and he was sent away by the 'Water Rats' to Carlsbad to take the waters, and on his return made another effort, but it was of little avail. A benefit was then organised at the Oxford by the 'Rats,' and proved a big success. Of late years Jimmie has been living at his native place, Nelson, Lancs, following various occupations not connected with the profession. Towards the end he was not having a smooth time. Of a cheerful disposition, of the big-hearted, happy-go-lucky sort, a thorough Bohemian, Norrie could make as many friends in a day as some could in a year; but the pace that kills is usually the result of too many friends."

Will Norrie, the vocalist, is not in any way related to the deceased tenor, but Jimmy took great interest in him—so much so that he gave Will his band parts, all his songs, and his travelling kit. Will Norrie will, by special desire repeat Jimmy's great success, "Terry," at the South London.

Moss' Empires have secured that clever comedian, Fred Kitchen, for pantomimes 13-14, 14-15, 15-16, when he will don the skirts. Many will remember the record pantomime, "The House that Jack Built," at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow. Fred Kitchen's Dame Trot was then the talk of the provinces.

"Mr. Vanderhyde is Out" is the name of a sketch to be given for the first time on Monday at the Euston. The story is written round a case of justifiable homicide. The chief part is to be played by Mr. Wm. F. Grant, whose acting in "The Touch of a Child" has won such universal eulogium both from critics and managers.

Miss Irene Vanbrugh will follow her sister Violet at the Coliseum, and appear there on Monday week, Feb. 10, in Mr. J. M. Barrie's new short play, "Rosalind," which has been delighting audiences both at the theatre opposite (the Duke of York's) and at the Haymarket.

The fame of Marie Lloyd is world-wide, and the piquancy and charm of her contributions stamp them as things of sheer delight. She goes to the Finsbury Park Empire next week equipped with a budget of new songs and old favourites, for which she brings a vast wardrobe of the latest Parisian dresses.

M. Theodore Kosloff, Mlle. Baldina, M. Morosoff, and other well-known members of the Imperial Russian Ballet will be seen at the Coliseum on Monday in M. Rimsky Korsakov's version of "Scheherazade." M. Kosloff and Mlle. Baldina, it will be remembered, were the principals with Mlle. Karsavina in the first visit of the Imperial Russian dancers to England.

Anna Eva Fay, whose mystic manifestations and puzzles in telepathy have been so much enjoyed by bewildered audiences at the Coliseum, is concluding this week her most successful stay at that house. She will now fulfil a few special engagements (two weeks each town) in the provinces before returning to London.

As a test of Madame Fay's powers, Miss Adèle Levey, whose cable to a friend in New York had been returned, went on Tuesday to the Coliseum, and sat in the gallery. She sent a message to Madame Fay asking her friend's whereabouts. Madame called her name out and told her he was in Ontario, and how to communicate with him, and also told her how worried she (Miss Levey) was at the returned cable.

Mr. Harry Bawn, of the Edmonton Empire, who is always on benevolence intent, has been able to obtain permission from the directors of the Tottenham Hotspurs for the free use of their ground, together with the services of a professional team, for a charity match against a side representative of the music hall profession. The proceeds will be equally divided between the Prince of Wales's Hospital, Tottenham, and the Music Hall Home. The exact date has yet to be arranged. In the meantime, Mr. Bawn would be glad to hear from players connected with the profession who would be willing to become members of the variety team. Mr. A. Davies, of the "Encore," is co-operating with Mr. Bawn in the arrangements.

"Again a Woman" will return once more to London, opening on Monday next at the Edmonton Empire. This is the second visit of Cissie Lawson, who has met with great success in this sketch—undoubtedly one of the best she has ever produced. Cissie also has in preparation a sensational play, written especially for her by a well-known dramatic author.

A novel spectacular rag-time phantasy is in the course of preparation, and will shortly be produced at that most popular hall, the Oxford. The possibilities of elaborate mounting and pretty stage effects will be exploited in the new production, which is to be called "Ragmania," of which Mr. Blyth Pratt anticipates great things.

Mrs. Ellen Donegan, the wife of James E. Donegan, the founder of the Dunedin Troupe, died, we regret to state, early on Wednesday morning at Brixton. Mrs. Donegan had to return from the Continent recently to undergo treatment at a nursing home. From the first the family realised that the case was hopeless. The deceased lady was the mother of Nellie Donegan (Mrs. Earle Reynolds) Jimmy Dunedin, and Mrs. Maudie Mallia. At her own request Mrs. Donegan will be buried in America.

Mr. Charles Hannan's Scottish one-act comedies will be in considerable evidence in the London bills during the next fortnight. On Monday Messrs. Ralland and Russell's company produce Mr. Hannan's little piece, "Men is Sich Fules," for the first time, at the Brixton Empress, with a cast comprising Mr. George Tawde and Miss Eva McRoberts—the original Rab and Teeny of "Bunty Pulls the Strings" at the Haymarket—Mr. Milroy Cooper, Mr. George Gordon, and Miss Hettie Cavendish, whose last appearance in London was as Mistress Auld in "The Lodgers; or, Share the Bed," recently on its first production at the London Pavilion.

Mr. Charles Hannan's other new little Scotch piece, "The Lost Sheep," will be produced on Monday week, Feb. 10, by Mr. Ben Nathan at the London Pavilion, with a cast including Mr. J. T. Macmillan, Mr. Kenneth Black, Mrs. Blake Adams, Miss Dahlia Gordon, and Miss Lindsay Gray. This piece will be produced by Mr. Edward Lytton, acting for Messrs Greet and Engelbach, who are associated with Mr. Nathan in the venture of Mr. Hannan's little play. On the same evening Mr. Hannan's piece, "The Lodgers; or, Share the Bed," which is already fully booked up till next autumn, will be presented at the Tivoli for a three weeks' run by Messrs. Macdonald and Young, the company including Miss Jean Turnbull, Mr. Willie Black, Miss Lallie Forsyth, and Miss Nancy Blackwood.

At a football match at Cliftonville Grounds, Belfast, on Saturday last (Cliftonville v. Distillery), Miss Violet Lloyd, principal boy of "Jack and the Beanstalk" pantomime from Belfast Opera House, kindly attended and kicked off, eliciting a hearty reception from a crowded gate. During the interval the Cliftonville executive entertained the pantomime company to tea.

Films of the arrival and departure from the church were taken at the marriage on Monday of Mr. Arthur Douglas Bostock, son of Mr. Edward Henry Bostock, of Glasgow and London, the well-known music hall and entertainments proprietor, and Miss Vi Selena Veevers, daughter of the late Mr. William Robinson Veevers and of Mrs. Veevers, of Green Bat House, Alnwick, which took place at St. George's, Hanover-square. An account of the ceremony appears in another column.

A pleasing little ceremony took place at Sheffield Hippodrome last week, when Mr. Frank Poole, the popular resident-manager, presented, on behalf of Miss Mollie McCarthy, a gold medal to each of Corman's Juveniles, in token of Miss McCarthy's appreciation of the work of the youngsters during the run of the pantomime, "Puss in Boots" (Mr. J. F. Elliston's company). The popular "Dixie," as given by Miss McCarthy, with the help of Corman's Juveniles, has been a feature of the panto.

FEDERATION AND FUNDS.

M.H.A.R.A.

The usual weekly meeting of the committee of the above Association was held on Wednesday, Mr. Albert Schäfer presiding. There were also present Messrs. Harry Falls, T. C. Callaghan, Harry Herald, Chas. Coborn, Laurie Hunter, and C. Douglas Stuart. The agencies at Aberdare, Penarth, Pontypridd, and Tonypandy have been withdrawn, and it has been arranged that in future the Cardiff agent shall deal with the vouchers for those districts. The weekly statement showed an increase of fifty-eight new members, and receipts of £65 14s. 6d. Mr. Dean, of the Palace, Arbroath, was appointed agent.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

We are asked to once more draw the attention of our readers to the fancy dress ball, given in aid of the excellent work carried on by the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, which will be held at the Empire Rooms, Trocadero Restaurant, to-morrow (Sunday) evening. Those who love to whirl in rag-time or waltz are promised a real good time, and they will have the satisfaction of helping a really deserving charity. Valuable prizes will be awarded to the best costumes. Tickets (single 12s. 6d., double 23s., including supper and light refreshments) can be obtained from Miss Melinda May, 3, Newport House, Great Newport-street, W.C. Reception 9.30.

Miss Melinda May (the secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild), on behalf of the committee, desires to thank Mr. Walter Passmore, a guinea donation towards the fancy dress ball (per Miss Violet Folland); Miss Folland, collection, 13s.; Mr. Koulbest, donation, 1s. (per Miss Julia Reeve); Mrs. Kasrac (the Kasracs), collection, 8s. 6d.; Mr. Cyrus Bell, donation, 5s.; Mrs. Charles Coborn, ladies' costumes; and Miss Lottie Albert, gent.'s woollen shirts and collars. Miss May asks all ladies and gentlemen who have purchased tickets for the fancy and evening dress ball, which takes place to-morrow (Sunday) evening at the Trocadero, to kindly write to 3, Newport House, Great Newport-street, and the committee will be pleased to arrange for friends to sit together. There are no private tables. All those who wish to buy tickets must hurry up, as there are only a few left.

Music Hall Home.

The Secretary of the Music Hall Home acknowledges donation of five shillings from Mr. and Mrs. Harry Alaska.

The Old Boys of the Home have recently accepted invitations to the pantomimes at the Crystal Palace, the King's, Hammersmith, and the Broadway, Deptford, and enjoyed themselves immensely.

The next committee meeting of the Home will be held on Friday, Feb. 7, at the Three Stags, 69, Kennington-road, S.E., at 2.30 p.m.

Beneficent Order of Terriers.

At the meeting on Sunday last Terrier Ted Karno acted as W.T., Terrier Harry Falls as V.T., Terrier Bert Marsden as W.D., Terrier Billy Day as Y.B.

Applications for membership (third notice):—Tom E. Dean and Edgar Curtice. The election of officers for February resulted as follows:—W.T., Terrier Harry Falls; V.T., Terrier Bert Marsden; Organist, Terrier Arthur Were.

Arrangements have been made to hold the first annual dinner and concert of the Order (for Terriers' friends, ladies and gentlemen), at Frascati's Restaurant, Oxford-street, on Sunday, April 6, at 6.15 sharp. Full particulars will be forwarded to all members of the Order in due course.

Dr. G. F. McCarthy has been appointed medical officer to the Order.

Terriers who intend to be present at the Music Hall Ladies' Guild Ball are requested to purchase tickets for same from Terrier Were, or in any case to notify him that they will be present, so that all Terriers may be accommodated at one table.

The Secretary will represent the Order on this occasion.

The meeting of the Order will commence on Sunday next at 7.30 p.m. sharp, and Terrier Tom Packer will act as Deputy Secretary.

The Three Brothers Huxter are due at the Oxford on Monday, in their successful offering, "Languid Energy." This is their first London appearance since they were at this house in February last. They have only recently arrived in England after a lengthy South American and Continental tour.

The Empire revue, "Everybody's Doing It," which is rapidly approaching its anniversary, will be strengthened next week by a new scena dealing with the humorous side of a raid on a fashionable gambling house, a subject that certainly has its lighter side. Mlle. Lydia Kyasht will reappear at the house on Saturday next after an absence of ten weeks in Berlin, Buda-Pesth, and Vienna. With Miss Phyllis Bedells and Mr. Fred Farren she will be seen in a ballet-idyll, with a harvest scene.

In aid of the Music Hall Sick Fund and the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund and Institution a special matinée will be given at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, on Thursday next, Feb. 6, when Mr. Fred Karno has kindly promised the services of his "Mother Goose" company, and the programme will include the names of several "stars." The Music Hall Sick Fund has been established since 1867, and was the first society supported by performers. Of course, its operations will now be largely affected by the Insurance Act.

The funeral of the late Auguste Van Biene, who died while playing his 'cello on the stage of the Brighton Hippodrome, took place on Monday at the Jewish Cemetery, Golder's Green. The coffin had been conveyed from Brighton on the previous day, and had remained in the mortuary hall during the night laden with wreaths. The Rev. S. J. Roco, head minister of the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, conducted the service in the mortuary hall, and many persons watched the progress of the small procession thence to the grave in the Spanish and Portuguese section of the cemetery. The coffin was a black one, and, in accordance with the orthodox Jewish custom, bore no inscription; and all the flowers, with the exception of the family wreath, were buried with it.

The ceremony was performed by Mr. Roco, and he and several of the dead artiste's friends threw earth into the grave. The chief mourners were Messrs. Joseph, Edward, Benoit, and Earl Van Biene (sons), and Mr. Carl Stromberg (son-in-law). Other mourners were Mr. Herbert de Crez (the deceased's pianist), representatives of the Actors' Association and the Touring Managers' Association, Mr. Henry de Vries and Mr. David Van Volen (two old friends), Mr. F. Joynsen-Powell, Mr. W. H. Squire (the well-known 'cellist), Mr. T. Davies, Mr. B. Harris, and Mr. S. Wolff. Wreaths were sent from the directors of the Brighton Hippodrome and the artistes engaged there, and by Herr Meny and his orchestra (Winter Garden, Palace Pier, Brighton), Cissie Fitzgerald (an old friend), and Mr. Ogilvy Keith, of Brighton.

ACTS, ARTISTES, AND AGENTS.

Arthur Day and Liddy are responsible for the latest agency hustle. On Thursday evening of last week they saw Gisela and Rose, two talented young ladies, in their successful pot-pourri at the Victoria Palace. On Friday the agency interviewed Gisela and Rose, and on Saturday, as a result of the negotiations, a Moss tour was settled and contracts signed. Gisela and Rose commenced the engagement on Monday at the Empire, Liverpool. Messrs. Day and Liddy have also booked this act for the L.T.V. circuit.

The Brothers Dean, who are sailing on Saturday, per the s.s. Walmer Castle, for the Grand Theatres Circuit, South Africa, have been booked through Mr. Will Collins's Agency.

Ted Cowan, the popular comedian, has just returned to town from a short provincial tour, and is this week playing the Granville, Walham Green, where his "Tin whistle" song is causing screams of laughter and applause. This number is quite one of the funniest and most original songs of the day. It presents Ted Cowan with an opportunity to display, to a great extent, his ability as a comedian. Consequently, his success is not altogether surprising, but with other numbers like this one Ted should continue to increase his great popularity.

Trenchard and Jones, New Theatre, Pontypridd, are running variety from April 14 to July 28. Trenchard and Jones have placed their sole bookings in the hands of Joe Brown and Co.

Allan Shaw and Wood, Wells and Wilkins left by the R.M.S. "Kildonan Castle" on Saturday last to fulfil engagements on the Africa's Amalgamated Circuit, and next Saturday Mr. Rufe Naylor will despatch the Jackolew Trio and Pete and Minnie Lee for the same tour.

A troupe of four acrobats, styled the Pirmanis, and who hail from the Continent, created something of a sensation at the Empire, Camberwell, last week with their surprising feats. The act is one of the best in its line that we have had the pleasure of witnessing for a long time, and we predict a big success for it in this country. Mr. Rufe Naylor is handling the Act.

Tiny and Mite will shortly appear in a new sketch, specially written for them, in which Miss "Tommy Atkins" will take part. This new juvenile act is booked solely by Rufe Naylor's Agency.

Daw's Steamship Agency have arranged the following sailings:—Jan. 24, by the "America," C. H. Romaine, J. M. Young, and C. Crawley. Jan. 25, by the "Carmania," W. Farmer and Wm. T. Crespinel. Feb. 1, by the "Mauretania," Maude Tiffany. Jan. 29, by the "Oceanic," Mr. and Mrs. Raftrey. Feb. 1, by the "Mauretania," May York, Leora Meaux, Isabel Taliserio, Wm. N. Spiller, Charles H. Brady, and Wm. C. Smith. April 4, by the "Corsican," Harry James Bale and Harry Young.

Owing to his own interests and those of his clients being affected in other directions, Mr. Jack Poole has been reluctantly compelled to relinquish the sole agency of the Grand Theatre, Pentre.

Mr. Goldstein, of Collins' office, has just returned from a particularly successful provincial tour. He promises us several surprises from the bookings he has made.

At the moment of going to press we learn by wire of the death of Barney Stuart, who passed away at Liverpool on Thursday, at the age of 41.

Mr. Rowland Hill, who heads the comedians in the pantomime at Theatre Royal, Sheffield, is scoring a big success as Baroness Toto.

Adèle Levey, who scored a triumph at the Empress, Brixton, Women's Matinée, on Wednesday, opens on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Guildford.

Mr. Norman V. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson are being received with great enthusiasm by music hall audiences in F. B. Wingate's dramatic episode, "The Open Question." Owing to the success of this play, Mr. Norman and Miss Wilson will continue to appear in it for some time to come.

"Maison Decolletée," the new Viennese operetta at the London Pavilion, has been considerably strengthened since the opening night, and now goes with a rare swing. Some funny comedy situations have been added by Mr. Charles Danvers and Miss Nan Stuart, and the show is very bright from start to finish; so much so that the management have decided to prolong the original engagement indefinitely.

Lupino Lane is one of the pluckiest comedians on the stage. During his wonderful dancing it is only natural that he should, now and again, meet with slight accidents. This week, in pantomime, at the Manchester Theatre Royal, he had the misfortune to sprain the muscles of his side, but he has continued working, wrapped up in bandages, although, to use his own phrase, he feels "a bit rotten."

The Oxford announces some novelties for Monday: "The Stationmaster," a Merry Railroad Ramble in two scenes; Bob Karna's "Honeysuckle" Co. in an extraordinary exhibition of club juggling; Mlle. Palermo and Signor Chefalo with some marvellous illusions; Austin Rudd with some funny songs, and owing to its very great success "Oh! Molly" is retained in the bill with Florence Ray as the principal character.

Miss Maie Hoey, by special request, appeared at the matinee given recently at the Empress by the Rev. A. J. Waldron, and made a tremendous success. She recited "Queen Katherine" and "The Blush Rose." In the evening she appeared at Clavier Hall, giving Mr. Frank Desprez's poem, "Lasca," also with great success.

The pantomime at the King's, Edinburgh, will terminate its run to-night, and Miss Maude May Murray, whose beautiful dancing has been one of the hits of the production, will long be remembered in Edinburgh. She has been secured by many first-class managers, and on Monday will open at the Palace, Barrow-in-Furness.

There is no questioning the wisdom of the policy adopted by the directors of the Moss' Empires, Ltd., which has enjoyed a remarkably prosperous year. The profits derived from all places of amusement are notoriously of an up-and-down character, and the directors in this case are to be congratulated on their decision to strengthen the position of the company, rather than to distribute a big dividend.

As it is, the dividend is raised from 5 to 7½ per cent. The balance at the credit of profit and loss account, exclusive of the amount brought in, is as much as £141,628, being more than double that of a year ago. A sum of £11,900 is applied in redemption of the Six per Cent. Debentures, £9,900 is added to general reserve, £29,641 is written off special expenditure on properties, £3,025 is written off investments, and the carry-forward is raised from £10,225 to £22,619.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

In the racing world the equine crack who shows staying power is always well supported by the cognoscenti when a long course has to be negotiated, and the result invariably proves the wisdom of the selection, for the "staying" animals are still full of go when the "soft-hearts" have had to "chuck" it on account of the pressure being too great. That is the way disaster lies in matters of the Turf, and the analogy holds good in the theatrical world as well. It is only the "stayers" who succeed, and as regards panto productions, where second editions are in full swing, the staying power of Feldman's songs is well exemplified, for the songs originally featured remain unchanged.

The continued success of the Glasgow Theatre Royal panto, where business and bookings have smashed all records, must be most gratifying to Mr. Bert Feldman. It was in this house that the Feldman rag-time gee-gees got their pantomime canter, and it is here that Fred Barnes, Gwladys Soman, Daisy Yates, and Ivy Latimer have captured all hearts with Feldman's publications, which fall as follows to their respective lots:—Fred Barnes, "Alexander's rag-time band," "Ragtime violin," and "Mary used to love a sailor"; Gwladys Soman, the artistic ballad of the season, "Take me back to the garden of love"; Daisy Yates, "Moon mad"; Ivy Latimer, "In the garden of my heart"; the Russell Girls, "I want to be in Dixie" and "Gaby glide"; and Fred Barnes and Gwladys Soman, "There's a girl in Havana."

Another artiste who has scored a most unequivocal success with Feldman's publications is Miss Clara Beck. She features "Alexander's rag-time band," and thunders of applause nightly greet her rendering of this popular Feldman gem. Glasgow, Edinburgh, Leeds, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool—wherever there is a good panto production, there is Feldman's music to the front, and always with the same result—the high-water mark of appreciation on the part of the public, raising artistes to the zenith of popularity and financial sucess, and swelling managers' treasuries to bursting point.

Mrs. Williams' panto at Edinburgh is as chock full of Feldman gems as a good Christmas pudding is of currants. Miss Maude Esmond scores hugely with "Who were you with last night?" and Alice Wylie has made a tremendous hit with "I want to be in Dixie."

Maudie Thornton has added much to her reputation by scoring triumphant successes in "Alexander's rag-time band," "There's a girl in Havana," and "Love bees," while Phyllis Monkman is no less successful in "That mysterious rag" and "Gaby glide."

As stated in a previous issue, Scotland has gone crazy over panto and rag-time of the Feldman brand, and nothing could be a better exemplification of this fact than the astounding success which night after night at the Princess's, Glasgow, is the portion of Miss Jennie Hartley in "I want to be in Dixie" and "Oh! you beautiful doll."

Mr. Laidler's Bradford production is professionally termed a Feldman season, for all the numbers belong to the Arthur-street firm, and undoubtedly a large amount of the success is due to the great pains which Mr. Laidler has taken with the various numbers. Miss Alice Wyatt, beautiful and stately, as the Prince, creates a tremendous sensation with "Alexander's rag-time band," and in "There's a girl in Havana" she gives a most artistic performance. To the delightful Cinderella, Miss Susie Belmore, falls the ballad hit of the year, "Take me back to the garden of love," and for one of the most artistic expositions of the year Miss Belmore receives an ovation. She also is to be commended for her rendition of "Glimmer, glimmer, little night-light," which is a tremendous hit. Mr. Laidler's children deserve the greatest possible praise, and their success with "I want to be in Dixie" and "Oh! you beautiful doll" is well earned. In all his productions this year Mr. Laidler has been successful beyond the most sanguine anticipations, but he is not a whit more successful than his legions of friends would wish him to be.

In the elaborate répertoire of the Real Ragtimers, who feature quite a number of Feldman songs, the rendition of "The Gaby glide" at the Finsbury Park Empire this week proves one of the tit-bits of the performance. Composed as the combination is of real coons, the exposition of syncopated music by the troupe is quite a revelation, and everywhere they go their engagement has proved highly successful.

In the political world there used to be an axiom to the effect that "what Lancashire thinks today the whole country will think to-morrow." The saying is just as apposite at the present moment with regard to the theatrical domain as it was when first uttered with regard to politics, for the manner in which Feldman songs have captured the North is well-nigh miraculous. Go where one may there is no escape from them. At the Theatre Royal, Manchester, the "Dick Whittington" panto, under the direction of Mr. John Hart, is delighting thousands of visitors, attracted from all over the North country by its gorgeous production at the skilful hands and nimble wit of that past master of producers, Mr. Walter McEwen. This gentleman has excelled himself in the art of producing on this occasion, and he has given the celebrated house of Feldman every assistance in contributing to the success of their songs. Here Miss Daisy Wood is creating a veritable furore with "I want to be in Dixie," and it is almost electrical the way in which the enthusiastic audiences take up her chorus with avidity. Miss Alice Pollard sings "Oh! you beautiful doll" and "Come under my parasol" in most artistic style. The Sisters Reeve are another pair who call for special admiration, and in "There's a girl in Havana" they meet with tremendous success, whilst Lupino Lane, whose acrobatic performance has made him a pronounced favourite, is creating a "riot" with "The Gaby glide."

From Newcastle-on-Tyne comes the tidings of another splendid triumph for Miss Molly McCarthy, who is winning all hearts at the Pavilion by her artistic and finished performance. Whenever this versatile artiste appears her success is instantaneous, and Press and public acclaim her as the star of the future. As is well known, Miss McCarthy has been featuring Feldman songs throughout her brilliant career, and perhaps of all her phenomenal successes "I want to be in Dixie" is her greatest, and the way in which she gets her audience to sing the refrain supplies clear demonstration of her strikingly individualistic personality. In "It's a long way to Tipperary" Miss McCarthy's star is once more dazzlingly effulgent, and great speculation awaits the production by her of Feldman's coming new crazes.

Always merry and bright should be adopted as their motto by Hedges Bros. and Jacobsen, who by their geniality and excellence have endeared themselves to the public. Their appearance on the stage is the signal for a storm of applause, and their subsequent doings thereon fully merit this, and also the enthusiastic approval with which their efforts are rewarded. The merry trio, who are deservedly styled "kings of rag-time," have been exploiting for some weeks past with great success, "Let me live and die in Dixieland," which is published by Messrs. Feldman and Co. They also have in active rehearsal for immediate production a new number by the same publishers, entitled "When the midnight choo choo leaves for Alabam'," which is in the nature of a masterpiece, and promises to put all else in shade.

At the Shoreditch Empire this week Sam Stern, the versatile comedian, is bringing down the house with his unique act. He is singing, among other numbers, "How that German could love!" published by Messrs. Feldman and Co.

An original comedian, who has worked his way into the favour of the public by sheer merit, is Gus Garrick, who is presenting a new act at the Oxford with great success. He introduces the rag-time classic, "The Gaby glide," his eccentric treatment of which pleases the audience mightily.

Success, that elusive aim which is striven for by all, is attending the efforts of Albert Whelan. He is this week at the Palace Theatre making an undoubted hit with two Feldman publications, to wit, "The rag-time engineer" and "O! you beautiful doll." The former is especially recommended as a novelty in this style of composition, possessing every characteristic which goes to make a big number.

The Rag-time Six are a merry crowd who just recently arrived from the States. After their triumphal opening week at the Holborn Empire much comment is unnecessary. They are duplicating this success at the Palace, Plymouth, this week. Original methods are employed by the syncopating sextette in exploiting their material. This is of the very best, as can readily be understood when it is mentioned that almost all the numbers used by them are published by Messrs. Feldman and Co. Their opening number, "The rag-time soldier man," proves very popular, and the melody is very quickly taken up by the audience. This is followed by "Be my little baby bumble bee," a typical American number rendered in typical American style. "The rag-time jockey" follows, with special costume effects by the three lady members of the company, with results which strengthen previous convictions that this is a big number.

A unique record is possessed by The Rag-time Octette, whose progress throughout the principal London and provincial variety houses has been one round of success. They have been consistently featuring "The ghost of the violin" and "The rag-time jockey," both of which are published by Messrs. Feldman and Co.

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VAUDEVILLE PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION.

The work of the Vaudeville Producers' Association was advanced at a general meeting held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, on Thursday. Mr. Herbert Darnley presided, and amongst those present were Mr. Wal Pink, Mr. Edward Marris, Mr. Jack White, Mr. Sidney Dooley, Mr. Sam Richards, and Mr. Cameron Matthews.

It was announced that Mr. Rowlands, being now engaged in another branch of theatrical work, had resigned the position of hon. secretary and treasurer, and Mr. Sidney Dooley, proposed by Mr. Pink, and seconded by Mr. Richards, was appointed in his stead. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Rowlands for his services in the past. Mr. Sam Richards and Mr. Cameron Matthews were elected members.

The chairman said the subscription to the Association was small, but the funds amounted to close upon £7. The accounts were about to be audited, and a regular report would be presented at the next meeting. He had written to Mr. Ridley, the head of the Fire Brigade in the Borough, with regard to the question of fire-proofing. Suggestions had been made to the Fire Brigade that an arrangement should be made by which sketches and companies of any kind going out on tour should be enabled to carry an official certificate to the effect that their scenery was fire-proof, and not be left to the mercy of the local fireman or stage-manager, who applied a lighted match to test the fire-proofing, and very often ruined the scenery. Important business had, however, come before the London County Council, and they had not been able up to the present to deal with the matter. The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Wm. Verrall, who made the suggestion that information regarding places of amusement offering sharing terms should be exchanged by members.

The suggestion was carefully considered by the meeting, and finally the following resolution, proposed by Mr. Pink, and seconded by Mr. Richards, was adopted:—"It is advisable in the interests of the V.P.A. that all members engaged on sharing terms should, *in confidence*, acquaint the secretary of the state of business, the likelihood of good or bad weeks, the posting and printing essential, the number of complimentary tickets issued, the number in band, the usual stage staff, and matters to be prepared for or guarded against."

The question of compensation for accidents to employees was raised by the chairman, who was of opinion that legal protection for members in cases which did not come within the scope of other societies might well be included in the work of the Association. Meanwhile, it was agreed that steps should be taken by which the Association might insure its members with some well-established society under the Employers' Liability Act.

The chairman stated that he had written to the Touring Managers' Association with regard to a conference by a joint committee on the matter of truck rates, and that the Association had replied that they would be delighted to meet the V.P.A. and consider the position. It was decided that a sub-committee be appointed at the next committee meeting, and the secretary was instructed to arrange with the Touring Managers' Association the most suitable date for the purpose.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the meeting.

FIFTY-EIGHT YEARS A MINSTREL.

LITTLE THOMAS'S RECORD.

Little Thomas, who is now appearing in Eustace Gray's Minstrels at the Palladium, celebrated his fifty-eighth anniversary as a burnt cork comedian on Tuesday last. Needless to say that when it became known that this old minstrel had blacked his face for so many years he was the recipient of an immense ovation.

Speaking with a clear voice, Little Thomas acquainted the huge audience with the fact that he was seventy-four—and not out. This was the signal for a tremendous outburst of applause. Continuing, Little Thomas said that he had the honour of singing the solo of "God Save the Queen" at the great Universal Exhibition at Hyde Park in 1851. He also said that he remembered the opening of Victoria-street to the public. During his speech, which was interspersed with hearty applauding, Little Thomas said that out of a family of ten, three of his sons were serving H.M. the King in the Army. As the audience demanded speech after speech from this veteran minstrel, he gave a very witty verse of poetry, showing how a joint of roast mutton lasts his family a week.

It was all very funny, and it was not until Little Thomas had exhausted all his fund of ready humour that the audience allowed him to resume his corner, and the programme proceed.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

KINGSTON EMPIRE.

Habitués of the Kingston Empire had been looking forward with pleasure to hearing once again that talented 'cellist, Van Biene, whose services Mr. Sounes, the proprietor, had engaged as the principal attraction this week, and many regrets were expressed in the theatre on Monday night that death had robbed them of the opportunity of hearing the venerable musician once more. The big gap caused by his sudden demise was filled up with characteristic energy, the well-known troupe of knockabout tumblers, the Kellinos, in their speciality act, "The Crazy Tailors," being engaged. Their turn, which is full of life and bustle, and includes some clever tumbling feats, was very smartly done, and well received.

A particularly cordial reception was given to that amusing and veteran comedian, James Fawn, who sang two songs, "The booking clerk" and "The henpecked Jossers' Club," the patter accompanying each convulsing the audience with laughter. Mr. Fawn was loudly encored each evening. Datas, the man with a phenomenal memory for dates, is also a powerful attraction at the Empire. Many people taxed his memory with "posers" relating to events in the dim past, and in more recent times, but the replies in every case were admitted to be correct.

Fun is caused by Bedini and Bedini in their comical juggling feats, in the course of which many pieces of crockery are broken, and they also take part in a clever dance. Miss Haidée de Rance, a young violinist of great promise, displays remarkable cleverness on the king of musical instruments, and earns much well-deserved applause. The Romps, a company of ten well-trained young ladies, appear in a pretty act, in which song and dance predominate. Other items in an admirable programme are Ara Zebra and Vora, in an interesting acrobatic sketch, entitled "Indians on the Prairie"; the Meadens, who appear in the successful sketch, "The Commercial Traveller"; and Violet Romaine, who reveals a good voice in two songs.

THE EUSTON.

Euston Palacegoers are provided with a well-varied bill of fare this week, and judging from the way in which it was received on Monday night the management may expect a busy time. As an equilibrist, it would be hard to find a more clever exponent of the art than Tony Nelson, who takes an important share in the programme. Ably assisted by Miss Tilly, he performs some surprising acts of strength and skill, and is aptly described the equilibristic marvel. Every item is gone through with consummate ease and neatness, leaving his audience in a state of amazement at such accomplishments. In Miss Tilly he has an excellent attendant.

Marie Lloyd, the queen of comediennes, is appearing in all her latest successes, including a song in the nature of a rag-time item, "It's the Piccadilly trot, trot, trot," and "I'd like to live in France all the time." Marie is as popular as ever, and her cleverly-rendered items were much appreciated. Harry Tate is still "Motoring"; a sketch which produces ripples of mirth from start to finish. Charles Whittle, in capital chorus songs, is a favourite, and Fred Wilkinson is quite mystifying in his clever magical problems.

The Crisps appear in the clever and attractive vocal and dancing scena, "The Little Deputy." Miss Ray Wallace is heard to advantage in her imitations of Miss Vesta Tilley, Mr. Gus Elen, and Miss Vesta Victoria. Verno and Voyce in their novelty act, "Vocal Snapshots"; Elsie Kerry, the Irish girl in Irish songs; W. H. Kuming, and a piano; and Nino and Nana, who contribute some clever acrobatic dancing, are also in the fine programme here, and some of the latest pictures are screened.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

A great attraction in the bill here this week is the charming Miss Zona Vevey, who meets with a most flattering reception. Daintily gowned, Miss Vevey is heard to advantage in "I do love that shepherd boy of mine," "Tell me, pretty little Cupid," and "The piper and the drummer." Miss Vevey has a pretty stage setting, and is accompanied by the author-composer of her songs, Mr. Max Erard, a clever executant. Vasco, the mad musician, plays many known and unknown instruments to perfection, finishing with a selection on the flute whilst "pedalling" a set of bells with his feet. Ed. E. Ford, a comedian from "down under," might easily describe himself as the man with the elastic face. Amongst his many facial impersonations, that of a labour orator giving his first public speech is exceedingly clever.

The equals of the Four Ascots, a talented combination of all-round dancers, would indeed be hard to find; their solo and collective dancing is really wonderful, the steps being executed with such neatness and precision. Their act, which is certainly the best of its kind that has ever visited New Cross, well merited the applause it received at its conclusion. Tom E. Dean is featuring a very smart parody on "Alexander's rag-time band," a great number which he knows how to work. Some capable part singing is supplied by Mackinnon's Scottish Meisters, a party of four gentlemen, whose voices blend well together in many Scottish airs. Lee and Kingston, in their comedy act, are well received, as are Alexandre and Bertie, a clever pair of gymnasts, and Rose Cambry, vocal comedienne. Mr. Ernest Lepard, who is in charge here, is very popular.

CHISWICK EMPIRE.

There is a feast of joy and a gala of talent here this week, and the management has a show that speaks miracles for its enterprise. In his own inimitable way Billy French quite early dances himself into the good graces of the audiences; indeed, his step-dancing is positively wonderful and everyone is delighted with Billy's unique performance; "Let's have a game of ring-o'-roses" is the plaint of Victor Kelly, whose methods are somewhat novel and who proves his ability as a quaint of no inconsiderable ability; a serio-comic son of Mars affords the comedian opportunities for a further display of his humour.

The Follies, with their splendid reputation to herald their advent, are thrice welcome; happily chosen from their répertoire there is not a dull moment in the programme presented. Again Lewis Sydney tells his stories (new and old) as only he can; Miss Doris Vane displays her wonderful voice in the sun song, and Pélissier père is unctuously funny in a rag-time ditty; and the entire company are ravishingly good in the Dickens centenary performance. In the unavoidable absence of Barton and Ashley the Sisters Toots add brilliancy to the show with their talented imitations; their most successful item is an imitation of Wilkie Bard and his interlocutor. The deputies met with an exceptionally favourable reception.

There is something distinctly eerie about Maskelyne and Devant's unsolvable mystery, "The Window of the Haunted House," and as no one in the house on the occasion of our visit succeeded in solving the problem the arch masters of magic retain their secret, but it is quite admirably done and left an air of mystery combined with pleasure. Always a host in himself, Barclay Gammon, who describes himself as "the fat man with a red face," at the piano scored in his own innate way; he chirped quite merrily on the vagaries of fashion, drama, and music "In that beautiful planet of Mars." Naturally, the rag-time craze has not escaped the notice of the humorist, and he gave Mendelssohn's "Spring song" adapted to "Alexander's rag-time band"; the combination is interesting and not unpretty. Barclay Gammon proves one of the huge hits of the evening, and it is refreshing to note he presents a new programme, and in this he makes a host of new friends; the reception accorded to the talented artiste is gratifying in the extreme, and he is awarded a triple "call."

In the Plaza de Toros the Lorch Family give their fine acrobatic performance; after all, what this gifted family do not know about acrobatic shows is not worth knowing, and their ingenuity, alacrity, and daring are a theme of wonder.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME.

Variety leads the way this time, and in fairness to the enterprising management let it be said it is of the best kind, and quite good business is a resulting factor. Miss Doris Ashton is good in her selections, and her terpsichorean efforts are idealistic; she pleases everyone immensely. Laughter loud and long is provoked by the Bros. Ashley in a comedy boxing sketch in a barber's shop; and Rob, Ivy, and Lyn are quite acceptable in a song-scena, "The Garden of Music." This is quite an admirable example, and is much applauded. Very dainty and bewitching are Mignon and Frasettis in a dancing act of unusual cleverness, and the turn wins all hands down.

A further attraction is Fergus Leslie and company in a dramatic episode, "The Lie." It is superbly interpreted, and owes not a little of its success to Miss Phyllis Morland, who is excellent throughout. And here, too, is Sam Mayo, as immobile as ever, with his quaint ditties and his irresistible vagaries; the audience welcomed his appearance with unmistakable enthusiasm, and his "Trip to Hastings" proved a gem in his répertoire.

A really good recitation is certainly not to be despised, and Mr. Harry Russon does justice to Kipling and himself. Quite the sensation of the evening is provided by Roland Carr with his American Rag-timers, eight in number, in all the latest American successes. The company includes Russell Challoner, Chas. Craganour, Darran Rossiter, Alan Midge, Frankie Gilbie, De Vier (the piano kid), Leslie Edison, and Charlie Carr; and everyone was excellent. Mr. H. J. Tilley is the courteous manager, and the success of the programme is an indication of his shrewd judgment.

VICTORIA PALACE.

This week's programme at the Victoria Palace is enlivened by the popular comedy skit entitled "Two Doors and a Passage," in which Miss Marie Pera appears, supported by Mr. Ashton Jarry. The obstinate success of this cleverly devised and amusing trifle continues. It is a model of its kind, and is particularly well played. Miss Marie Pera is bright and pleasing as the wife, and Mr. Ashton Jarry plays in easy, natural style the part of the husband.

Mr. David Devant is making his appearance here this week, and has received a most cordial welcome in this part of the town. His programme of magic and legerdemain is well varied, and the audience at each performance are delighted with an entertainment that consists of so many novel features. One of the most attractive and astonishing items is the spectacular production entitled "The Artist's Dream," in which Mr. Devant plays the part of an artist who is engaged in painting the picture of a beautiful young woman with whom he is deeply in love. Becoming too tired to continue his work, he falls asleep on a couch in his studio, and dreams. A female figure, dressed all in white, makes her ghostly appearance, and, pulling aside the curtain which conceals the picture, reveals the original alive and smiling. The sleeper awakes, only to discover that the vision of his dream has vanished. The woman in white also disappears in a mysterious inexplicable manner. The shock is too much for the artist, and he falls in a swoon upon the floor.

The current programme also includes the Four Sisters Ruby, who score as contortionists and dancers; Hedges Brothers and Jacobsen, the successful American rag-timers; Sophie Forrest, a clever little comedienne and dancer; Rinaldo, the wandering violinist; the Five Wartons, famous Continental acrobats; Bright Bros., equilibrists; and George Benson, mimic.

ILFORD HIPPODROME.

By way of a change, "The Flag-Lieutenant" is presented at the above popular hall this week, and the management are to be complimented on the excellent fare provided, which appeals to all sections of the house. As Richard Lascelles, Flag-Lieutenant, Mr. H. Langdon Bruce proves himself to be an actor of great ability, and his rendering of this difficult part is worthy of the highest praise. Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir Berkeley Wynne, K.C.B., is most effectively played by Mr. George Mallett, who speaks his lines with fine dramatic effect, and, in addition, thoroughly looks the part; Mr. Henry Wolston as Major Thesiger greatly adds to his reputation; Miss Laura Hansen as Mrs. Cameron gets every ounce out of the part, and by her cleverness adds many more to her already long list of local admirers. Lady Hermione Wynne has a most charming exponent in Miss May Lytton, and her tasteful costumes fill the minds of the audience, especially the feminine portion, with much admiration; Horatio Hood and Edward Lee, two typical midshipmen, are in the safe hands of Messrs Edward Strong and Francis Drake, respectively; Mr. Horace Edward as Walter Crutchley, surgeon, does well, and Mr. Ellis Dee in the comparatively small part of General Gough-Bogle proves himself to be an actor of marked ability. A well-drawn sketch of Michael Pallister, the Irish telegraph operator, is provided by Mr. Wallace Clough, whose brogue is delightful. Mr. George Mallett is the stage director, and Mr. Victor Moore the stage-manager.

"THE SON OF HIS FATHER."

Introducing the knuckle fight which was so well received when presented recently at the National Sporting Club, Jack Collinson and Jack Wayho are appearing at the Canterbury this week in a new patriotic boxing episode, entitled "The Son of His Father." The piece, which is written by E. C. Matthews, is a pleasing trifle. Admiral Sir Chas. Dreadnought accuses his son, a lieutenant in the Navy, of selling service secrets to a foreign Power, and tells him to take off his coat and prepare for a good hiding. The son refuses until the Admiral suggests that he is not his son at all. Enraged by this insult on his dead mother, the boy shapes up, and the fight begins. After a gruelling and realistic set-to, the son is knocked out. Whilst he is regaining consciousness, the telephone bell rings, and the Admiral is informed across the wire that the authorities have made a mistake in doubting the lieutenant's loyalty, and that they withdraw the charges made. Thus father and son are friends again. "A Son of His Father" is a stirring production, and the success it is achieving is most justly deserved.

Miss Peggy Webling, whose version of Kingsley's "Westward Ho!" is about to be produced at the Palladium by Mr. Matheson Lang, has written a story, entitled "The Pearl Stringer," dealing with modern life in London. It will be published by Messrs. Methuen.

"AN AMERICAN ARTISTE ON ENGLISH CONDITIONS."

With reference to the cutting from the New York "Player," published in our last issue under the above title, we have received from Mr. Harry Houdini a copy of a letter which he is writing to the editor of the "Player," traversing the wild statements made by the White Rat in his diatribe.

Mr. Houdini desires us to publish his letter. He considers that, as the article in question gives so false an idea of English music hall conditions it ought to be severely criticised.

The reply by Mr. Houdini is as follows:—

To the Editor of the "Player."

Dear Sir,

After reading the article of the artiste who so wrongfully attacks English conditions, I feel in duty bound to reply, so as to enlighten many of my brother and sister professionals who may read the article and really believe it.

I do not know who wrote the article but I feel by instinct that it was not an American, and if you will look into the artiste whose pen inspired the article, you will find that he is not a native-born American. I am simply judging from the tone of the letter in general.

In the first place, I believe that it is an artiste who can only have been in England a few weeks, or at the most a month or so, and is judging things with prejudiced eyes.

As I have been in Great Britain on and off more than twelve years, working almost all the time, I am positive that the writer of the article is entirely ignorant of manners and affairs in England (speaking theatrically).

In my travels around the world, and I have worked for nearly every manager of any note who plays vaudeville artistes, I can safely say that for fair treatment, for long contracts, and cheap living, England is, without a question of doubt, the best country in the world.

Personally, I believe you did very wrong in publishing your letter without investigation, for some of the remarks are entirely unworthy of being published, especially that agents despise American acts, which is not true, as the agents only despise the fresh "hick" who comes over here, with his "dis and dat" and "b'eau, we tarred 'em over," and "cull, we sewed them up," and "boy, we taught 'em a lesson with the Jasbow."

Your writer says, "they have been here a few weeks, and looked into conditions carefully." I wonder where—in some "pub.," or at the back of the stages where they have been employed. I'll wager they never saw the inside of any of the managers' offices in power. I do not mean local managers, but the managers of the powerful syndicates.

And as for salaries, in no country in the world are the artistes paid as well on an average as in Great Britain. I draw as much money, and more, than I do in Germany or America, and manage to save a great deal more than in America.

Look at some of the jumps we have at home. In 1911 I was jumped from Indianapolis to Atalanta, and then back again to Philadelphia, a jump which cost, with my excess baggage and assistants, over $150 each week. Think of it, £30! and here is your American (?) writer saying that things are dearer than in America. Why I had to jump from Aberdeen to Brighton three years ago, an $8 jump, and I never recovered from it until I played return dates in America.

Imagine jumps here in England—Leeds to Bradford, 9d., to Hull 5s. In fact, on an average the jumps are so small that dozens and dozens of artistes, who have their homes in London, leave their work Saturday night or Sunday morning, go to London, remain there all day and night, and on Monday morning go back to their next week's stand.

You can get from London to very nearly any city in Great Britain, Wales, or Ireland, in time for your opening, and spend Sunday in London.

As for living expenses, your writer is positively so ignorant of the means of living in England that he deserves to be severely spoken to.

Imagine him saying that living is as dear in England as it is in America! Quoting from my own experiences, when I am in America I generally stop at one of the best, if not the best hotel, in town. When in Washington on my last visit I stopped at the "Raleigh." I paid for two rooms for Mrs. Houdini and myself at the rate of seven dollars per day per room.

That will make $49 for the rooms alone. I average $21 per week in America for room and bath, while here in England I never spend whilst in the provinces $5 during the week, and I assure you that no one can live better than I do, for that, if I say it myself, is my hobby.

We get the finest in the land, and, mind you, we never spend $25 a week. How does that compare with your writer's false tales?

I challenge him to contradict my figures, and I assure you he is very, very much in the wrong throughout the entire article. The only thing he has succeeded in doing is to antagonise the entire Press against us American performers. I well remember several American performers, failures in London, who returned to America and decried England.

They do not please, and then vent their spleen on the inoffensive, unoffending Briton, who has never even heard of them.

English turns also come to America, and some make good, others do not do so well; but I very seldom see the English pro. running into print and decrying American contracts.

Your informant says that clauses are inserted after you sign them. The entire sentence is a deliberate misstatement, for in all contracts, any and all changes must be initialled by those interested, and in any court of law any clauses not initialled are null and void.

I know that there are tricky agents in England, but I would like to know a country where there are no tricky agents. If he will look on the Continent he will find that, as a rule, agents in England and America are unborn babes in contract craft compared to a real, good Continental agent.

Some of the material "pulled" on the Continent is worthy of the finest diplomat, as well as the greatest politicians we have, but nothing is illegal in their moves; they simply resort to peculiar methods to gain their object.

Trusting that you will publish this letter in your columns, I beg to remain, sincerely yours,

HARRY HOUDINI,
Member of the I.A.L. since 1901.

Bradford, Jan. 24, 1913.

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"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"

Produced, at the Olympia, Shoreditch, on Monday, Jan. 27.

Jimmy Riley .....Joe Elvin
Clorinda .....Miss Lenore Castalle
J. Riley, senr. .....Mr. Kennett Altonott
Mrs. Pumper .....Miss Audrey Stafford
Inspector, Prevention of Cruelty to Animals .....Mr. Geo. Denham

Mr. Wal Pink has provided the popular comedian, Joe Elvin, with one of the funnicst sketches he has ever had in "What's in a Name?" Produced at the Olympia, Shoreditch, on Monday, it allows him full opportunity of displaying his cockney humour to the fullest extent. A son and heir has been born to Jimmy Riley, and the scene opens on the morning of his christening. The baby's mother, Clorinda, and grandmother are discussing the name to be given. Jimmy himself has not appeared, and his father enters and informs Clorinda that her husband cannot find his tie and sock. Jimmy's voice is heard asking for his things, and on his entry there ensues an amusing discussion, in true Elvinesque vein, with regard to the infant's name. During its progress an Inspector for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals arrives, and demands that the animal that has been annoying the neighbours during the night should be given him to take away. Jimmy, of course, thinks he refers to the child, and another amusing interlude occurs. Mrs. Pumper has just previously discovered a letter in Jimmy's pocket from a lady with reference to an offspring of hers, and she shows it to the wife. This naturally leads to trouble. Jimmy denies the accusation, and demands the appearance of the child, whereupon the woman appears from the audience holding up the baby, and the curtain falls.

This farcical playlet is a scream from beginning to end, and Jimmy (Mr. Elvin) keeps the audience in a continual state of hilarity. Mr. Kennett Altonott presented a clever performance as James Riley, senr.; Miss Lenore Castalle was excellent as Clorinda; Miss Audrey Stafford represented the nosey Mrs. Pumper capitally; and Mr. Geo. Denham effectively played the inspector. There was no doubt as to the success of the sketch, which is sure to be in great demand.

The old favourite drama, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," will be staged at the New Middlesex on Monday. The variety section will include Harold Baker, the new comedian; Dion Wade, comedian and mimic; and Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, comedy and acrobatic cyclists.

Such flattering accounts of the mimicry of Mr. Henry A. Moore come to us from the Opera House, Tunbridge Wells, that we expect to hear of his being snapped up for a revue. His imitations of Wilkie Bard and R. G. Knowles, and his burlesque of Sir Herbert Tree, are among his triumphs of mimicry.

The Marvellous Child Trio are just concluding a tremendously successful month's engagement at the Apollo Theatre, Berlin. Director Carl Juppa honoured them with a special farewell celebration, at which he personally expressed his great satisfaction at the manner in which they had performed throughout their stay, and pronounced them most wonderful and brilliant artistes, fully deserving the prominent position on the bill in which he placed them.

BRAIN FILCHING.—III.

BY THE LITTLE MAN.

Whatever may be done to save the profession from the effects of brain filching, the initial difficulty that will have to be overcome will be to decide what constitutes a copy act. This will not be so easy as might at first be supposed.

Plagiarism in the literary world cannot only be readily discovered but the plagiarist can be brought face to face with evidence that he cannot dispute. You may take the book of which he is the author and point to sentences or paragraphs standing in cold print, which convict the brain filcher out of hand. Here are certain sentences, you will say, word for word, resembling each other, and the writer of the last printed must have copied the writer of the first. Of course, even in the case of copying in literature you will come eternally up against the objection that the likeness between two selected passages is due, not to copying, but to coincidence, a word that has to cover a multitude of sins. But you may believe in the coincidence idea or not, as you please—there is no way round it. Either it is plagiarism or it is coincidence; there is no middle course. But in the case of the act of a variety artiste the copying cannot be so simply defined. There is no printed passage, no fixed medium to take hold of for the purpose of comparison. The copying on the stage is rather of a complete effect than of the exact details which go towards making up that effect.

Let us take the case of a comedian, and, so that we may see exactly how to pick out the copyist, we will describe an imaginary make-up of the original.

Suppose there is a woman, dressed in a kimono, a creation of pink, and that she rests her left hand on her hip. She wears her hair in a negligent manner, and walks on to the stage with a bill—a grocer's bill—in her hand, upon the items of which she discourses, making jokes upon them. She stands with her feet wide apart, and does not shift their position once during her act. After every joke she stands with eyes and mouth wide open waiting for the laugh which she gets, not so much on account of her jokes as on account of the way in which she shows by her attitude that she is waiting for the people to laugh—that she expects them to laugh.

Now this expectation of laughter may be the funniest thing about her turn, or her kimono may be the funniest, or her way of standing. But it is the whole effect taken together that makes the act.

To get a copy of that act it is not necessary that the copyist wears a pink kimono. It might be a green one, or it might be a garment that was something like a kimono. But, although the body dress might differ a little, something of a copy of the effect might be obtained if the left hand rested on the hip. Nor, to get the effect of a copy act, need the imitator carry a bill in her right hand. She might carry a newspaper and read out articles, say, dealing with the domestic side of life. A copy effect might, indeed, be made without carrying any paper at all, the right hand being used for gesticulation. If, however, any of these conditions obtain, and the lady, in addition, stands with her feet wide apart, then the effect of the whole turn would be such as to make the intelligent audience perceive the work of the copyist. The impression would be that this act was a copy of the original.

But suppose the original should challenge the alleged copyist in a court of law—a place always maintaining a cold and calculating atmosphere—how is she to prove her case?

The court, which is engaged in taking and analysing evidence, and not in the more enjoyable occupation of witnessing a music hall turn, will say, "How can you say this lady copies you when she wears a green kimono instead of a pink one, when she carries a newspaper in her hand instead of a grocer's bill, when her jokes are different from your jokes. It may be true," the court may continue, "that she wears a kimono, but it is of a different colour. It may be true that she places her hand upon her hip; it may be true that she holds something in her hand, but you do not produce one iota of evidence showing any actual detail that is copied."

The originator of the turn in question will argue that the whole effect is a copy of the effect which, by her originality, she has secured. In order to establish that the original act has been copied at law, it is necessary to show that actual details have been copied. How would the originator in our imaginary case come out of the box after cross-examination at the hands of an eminent counsel? The counsel would ask questions upon every single item of dress and make-up, and, as I have attempted to show, each and every article taken separately might differ in ever so small a degree, yet the whole effect might be a copy.

How, then, is a proposition so difficult as this to be met? In what way can the law be altered to secure absolute copyright to the vaudeville act?

I think it has been established in these articles that the proprietor of the hall is the publisher of the act he puts on, just as the man who prints and circulates an author's book is the publisher of that book. If, as things stand at present, it is impossible to hold the publisher of an act responsible for the publication of a copy because of the difficulty of establishing proof, by building up evidence in detail, the act of copying must be proved by showing that the whole *effect* of an artiste's work is copied, and not any particular detail of it. This, after all, brings us only to the well-known legal idea of "colourable imitation." Like Macaulay's schoolboy, the whole world knows that trouble would follow if some brilliant imitator were to start tea shops designed, decorated, attended, and furnished exactly like some other well-known tea shops. It might be that the name Brown would appear in gold letters upon white ground instead of the name Jones, but if the whole effect were such as to mislead the public into thinking that Brown's shop was really Jones's, then Jones might conceivably have a case against Brown for producing a colourable and misleading imitation of his business. Trade marks are regulated in exactly the same manner. Why, then, should not vaudeville artistes be able to say "the act of which I complain is a 'colourable imitation' of my act, although in each individual detail I must admit that there is some slight difference"?

ALFRED LESTER AT COLISEUM.

It is always good to have so original a comedian as Alfred Lester on a bill, and when the vehicle chosen for his mirthful melancholy is "The Village Fire Brigade" the combination is a happy one. At the Coliseum the advantages of greater facilities for staging the absurdity are very apparent to those who assisted at the original Tivoli production; and the acquisition of an old fire engine that did duty in the forties is an interesting addition that makes for vraisemblance. Of course, Alfred is the head and front of the fun, which keeps two huge audiences every day on the laugh. The description of the composition of the brigade, the recital of its valiant efforts at reaching a fire when too late, and the exposition of its methods, are all in the true Lesterian vein, and what more does one want in the way of a stimulant to uproarious mirth? Mr. Lester is again admirably supported by Miss Buena Bent as the lady journalist and by Mr. Ewart Drake as one of the brigade.

Amongst the principal attractions at the Empire, Kingston-on-Thames, next week, are Miss Victoria Monks and Linga Singh, the Hindoo sorcerer.

VARIETY ARTISTES' FEDERATION.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Variety Artistes' Federation was held at the Criterion Restaurant on Sunday evening. Mr. W. H. Clemart (chairman) presided, and the proceedings were of a formal character, there being nothing in either the annual report or the very satisfactory balance-sheet to invite discussion.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

The chairman, who was received with applause, said it was with great pleasure he again rose to open the annual general meeting of the V.A.F. As they would see by the agenda paper, that was the seventh annual meeting, and the third at which he had the honour of taking the chair and conducting the proceedings. He did not propose to make a long explanatory speech, as the annual report to be read presently would embody everything of importance. He was glad to see present more of the influential members than they sometimes saw at the annual meeting, but regretted that the gathering was not so large as it might have been, taking into consideration the number of members enrolled. He supposed, however, that it was the same old story—as long as the Association was doing well the members kept away, being quite satisfied with the state of affairs. Last year, when he had the honour of presiding, he expressed a hope—almost a prophecy, in fact—that at the next annual meeting he should be in a position to tell those present that their funds amounted to £10,000. He was glad to say they had got that amount, and a little bit over. To be exact, the balance in hand at the end of the financial year, Dec. 31, 1912, as shown in the report, was £10,012 3s. 11d. He thought it would be interesting to turn to the balance-sheets of preceding years, which would give some idea of the advance that had been made. For the year ending Dec., 1909, the balance was £1,912 0s. 1d.; 1910, £2,593 18s. 11d.; 1911, £7,564 12s. 1d.; and 1912, £10,012 3s. 11d., so it would be seen that they had increased from £1,912 to £10,012. With regard to the new year, they were busily engaged in getting out the new cards, and up to Saturday the number of cards issued was 1,288, and included fifty-four new members. Of this number 205 members had fully paid up to the end of the year. There was no need for him to say any more, as there was the annual report to come. He was very pleased to meet his fellow members again, and he believed that after hearing the report they would be very proud of the work that had been done during the past year. In conclusion, he announced that a telegram had been received from Mr. G. H. Chirgwin to the effect that, although he was not with them in person, he was in spirit, and he was "just going to have one."

The first business was to appoint, in connection with the election of the Executive Committee, scrutineers and tellers. The following were elected: Messrs. T. C. Callaghan, Vernon Cowper, E. Comet, and E. Barwick.

The chairman then read the annual report, which was as follows:—

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

It may be claimed that the year 1912 has, generally, proved to be a satisfactory year to the Variety Artistes' Federation. The relations existing between the Federation and the various managements and agents can be described as being of a most friendly nature, and this has resulted in many grievances being settled in an amicable manner without any reference being made to the Law Courts. In fact, as previous balance-sheets show, the Federation year by year has had less need to carry its claims to legal extremities. The balance-sheet, which will be dealt with later, shows that the financial position of the Federation is not only most satisfactory, but is stronger than it has ever been in any other preceding year. The excellent balance which is carried forward to the year 1913 leaves the Federation in a position so secure that its continuance as an organisation may be safely counted on for very many years to come.

COMMITTEE ELECTION.

The result of the election for the Executive Committee was announced on Feb. 14, Mr. Wal Pink being top of the poll, with Mr. Fred Russell as an excellent second. Mr. George H. Chirgwin was again returned unopposed to the position of Honorary Treasurer, and the Honorary Trustees, Messrs. Joe Elvin, Paul Martinetti, and Edmund Edmunds remained in office as usual, these positions not being subject to re-election.

"THE PERFORMER" SALE.

During the year the balance of the purchase money of "The Performer" has been paid by "The Performer, Ltd.," into the coffers of the Federation. The amount, £3,000, as will be remembered, was spread over two years. This sum is now in the possession of the Federation, and in addition the debenture of £2,000, at five per cent. interest per annum, still continues to be held by the Federation. According to the Articles of Association of "The Performer, Ltd.," the Executive Commitee of the Variety Artistes' Federation may call upon the directors of "The Performer, Ltd.," to pay over this sum on giving six months' notice, should the Federation ever find itself in the position of requiring the money. On the other hand, the directors of "The Performer, Ltd.," cannot, in accordance with the Articles of Association, tender the money before the expiration of twenty-five years from the commencement of the loan.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AWARD.

The disappointment of the year is that circumstances have not so arranged themselves as to bring about, as it was hoped, a final agreement with the managers as to the suggested amendments to Sir George Askwith's Award of 1907. In accordance with the Award itself, copies of the proposed amendments were sent to the various managements on Jan. 1, 1912. On March 1, the Variety Artistes' Federation received counter notice from the managers' organisation (the Entertainments Protection Association), which resulted in the appointment of Messrs. Walter Payne and J. L. Graydon representing the managerial interests, and of Mr. Wal Pink and the Chairman representing the interests of the Variety Artistes' Federation, as delegates to meet and endeavour to come to a unanimous understanding before June 30. About half a dozen meetings took place, the last one in question being at the end of June. It is understood that Mr. Walter Payne has reported to the Entertainments Protection Association, and since then negotiations have been, we are informed, carried on between the various managerial interests with a view to coming to a unanimous decision as to the answer to be given to the suggested amendments put forward by the Variety Artistes' Federation. No doubt the delay can be attributed to the fact that in many instances managerial interests are diametrically opposed to each other on many points. We have, however, been unofficially informed that we may look for the managerial reply at a very early date. The Executive Committee is naturally anxious that the amending of the Award shall be conducted in as friendly and as peaceful a manner as possible, and it is trusted that only very few points, if any, will have to be placed before the arbitrator, Sir George Askwith, for his final decision. It would be a matter for regret if it became absolutely necessary that the whole question should have to be referred to him.

THE TITANIC FUND.

Reference was then made to the collections made on behalf of the Titanic sufferers by the V.A.F. and the "Performer," as the result of which the sum of £2,524 3s. 7d. was sent as a donation "from the music hall profession, the picture theatres, and their patrons" to the London "Daily Mail" Fund.

SUNDAY SHOWS.

The question of the opening of places of public amusement on Sundays has been one of the burning controversies of the past year. The Variety Artistes' Federation immediately recognised that any movement which might result in the opening of music halls on Sunday would be nothing short of a catastrophe to the whole of the music hall profession. A mass meeting, under the chairmanship of Mr. Edward Smallwood, J.P., L.C.C., was held at the Trocadero Restaurant, London, on Sept. 22, at which the following resolution was passed with few dissentients:—

"With a view to preserving Sunday as a day of rest and recreation for all concerned in the production of public entertainment, this meeting calls for the abolition of entertainment on Sunday in dramatic, variety, and picture theatres."

In order to obtain the opinion of the music hall profession who could not possibly attend the meeting, forms protesting against Sunday opening were distributed around the various halls, and were signed by no fewer than four thousand members of the profession. Following the meeting, a deputation, headed by the Variety Artistes' Federation, waited upon the Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the London County Council on Nov. 6, at which the Chairman of the Variety Artistes' Federation made a statement which was in conformity with the resolution passed by the mass meeting. The matter has not yet been finally dealt with by the London County Council as a body, although the report of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee has been made public. From that report it is quite evident that there is no present danger of either theatres or music halls being opened in the ordinary way of business on Sunday.

SOLE AGENCY.

The amicable relations between the Variety Artistes' Federation and the Variety Agents' Association have been considerably solidified by an agreement made on June 21 that all sole agency agreements should be so drawn that no sole agency agreement should be of a longer duration than three calendar months, unless the artiste in question decided to continue such agreement from time to time in periods of three months.

BENEVOLENCE.

The Variety Artistes' Federation has, since the first of January to the thirty-first of December, handed over to the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund and Institution the handsome sum of £270 odd, being an equivalent to something like an average of £5 per week, the money in question being the results of permissions granted for anniversaries, matinées, benefits, collections on board ship, and personal contributions made voluntarily on the part of certain managements. Reference was also made to the donations made by Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, and Mr. W. H. Broadhead.

LEGAL CASES.

Legal protection has been granted in the past year in forty-one cases, with the following results:—

22 cases have been won by the Federation,
13 were settled out of court to the satisfaction of all parties,
4 cases were lost, and
2 cases were withdrawn by common consent.

Two of the cases in question have established precedents which will be valuable to the music hall profession as a whole. The first has clearly established the point that an artiste's salary may not be garnisheed in England, and the second that in the event of an artiste becoming bankrupt his future salaries cannot be touched with a view to meeting the liabilities incurred previous to the bankruptcy.

MEMBERSHIP.

The number of blue cards of membership issued for 1912 is 2,612, and 366 new members have been made during the year.

The gold medal presented by the Chairman to the member proposing the greatest number of new members during the past year has been won by Mr. F. V. St. Clair.

It will be remembered that Mr. F. V. St. Clair also won the Chairman's medal for the year 1910.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We have once more to thank all our many friends who have assisted in maintaining the continued prosperity of the Variety Artistes' Federation.

Our affiliated societies, the International Artistes' Lodge of Germany, the White Rats Actors' Union of America, and L'Union Syndicale des Artistes Lyriques of Paris, have all, during the past year, been of great service to our members when sojourning in foreign parts.

Our solicitor, Mr. Eugene Judge, and our standing counsel, Mr. Charles Doughty, have again cheerfully and ably rendered most valuable assistance to the Federation, for which our very many members are no doubt grateful.

PRESENT POSITION AND FUTURE PROSPECTS.

In conclusion, it is hoped that the members, though they cannot but be satisfied with the position their organisation occupies to-day, will recognise that continued effort must be made, if we are to maintain the honourable and recognised position we have earned for ourselves in seven short years. Before February, 1906, the music hall artiste had no say whatever in the management of his own affairs. To-day, through the Variety Artistes' Federation, there is little that affects the music hall industry on which his opinion is not taken. There still is, however, room for improvement. All of us should use every influence we possess in convincing all members of the music hall profession that it is their duty not only to the community, but to themselves, to support the organisation. There is no legitimate or logical reason why any single member of the music hall or theatrical professions—for both are eligible—should be outside the ranks of the Variety Artistes' Federation; and with such a power at its back there is no grievance, large or small, which could not be adjusted smoothly and with despatch. It is not the desire of the Variety Artistes' Federation to use its powers, or to strengthen its power so that it may use it tyrannically. Its only aim and ambition is the general prosperity of all honourably concerned in the music hall business.

Mr. Austin moved that the annual report as read be adopted.

Mr. Bob Leonard seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The chairman then submitted the annual summary of accounts and payments during the year ended Dec. 31, 1912, as follows:—

RECEIPTS.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance brought from last account		7,564 12 1
,, Subscription Stamps	2,915 4 0	
,, Ditto for additional Acts	0 15 0	
,, Entrance Fees	384 6 0	
,, Ditto; part payment (fees not yet completed)	80 0 0	
,, Sale of Badges	1 12 6	
,, Duplicate Cards	1 1 0	
,, Interest and Dividends on Investments	329 18 10	
,, Loans repaid	40 7 5	
		3,753 4 9
,, "The Performer," Ltd. Completion of purchase price		1,125 0 0
		£12,442 16 10

W. H. McCARTHY, Accountant,
Jan. 20, 1913.

PAYMENTS.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Salaries	1,269 2 6	
,, Postages and telegrams	205 2 2	
,, Printing and stationery	152 2 2	
,, Rent	156 9 0	
,, Office and Sundry expenses	30 10 11	
,, Electric Light and Gas	17 3 9	
,, Telephone	17 3 0	
,, Insurance	12 1 2	
,, Audit Fee	10 10 0	
,, Expenses of Meetings	15 0 0	
,, Election expenses	12 12 0	
,, Manchester Office	49 1 2	
,, Liverpool Office	46 19 6	
,, Law Charges	397 13 7	
,, Loans advanced	39 2 0	
		2,430 12 11
,, Balance carried to next account—		
£6,000 Consols at cost	4,852 4 3	
£2,500 N.S. Wales Stock at cost	2,168 18 8	
£2,000 Debenture, of "The Performer," Ltd.	2,000 0 0	
£500 Met. Water Board Stock at cost	401 6 0	
	9,422 8 11	
£11,000 Cash on Deposit	200 0 0	
Cash on Current Account	339 15 0	
Cash in hand	50 0 0	10,012 3 11
		£12,442 16 10

DEATH LEVY FUND.

	£ s. d.
To Balance in hand at Dec. 30, 1911	121 19 1
,, Death Levy Stamps sold during year ended Dec. 31, 1912	696 3 6
	£818 2 7
	£ s. d.
By Payments made to deceased members' next of kin	726 16 10
,, Cash at Bank	91 5 9
	£818 2 7

LOANS ACCOUNT.

	£ s. d.
To Balance outstanding at Dec. 30, 1911	193 19 3
,, Amount advanced during year ended Dec. 31, 1912	39 2 0
	£233 1 3
	£ s. d.
By Amount re-paid during year ended Dec. 31, 1912	40 7 5
,, Balance outstanding	192 13 10
	£233 1 3

Mr. Bob Leonard moved, and Mr. Le Hay seconded, the adoption of the balance-sheet, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Voyce said he had been informed that the committee had withdrawn their grant for the upkeep of the office at Glasgow. He thought that a great mistake. He thought it was possible for the V.A.F. to co-operate with the M.H.A.R.A., and believed that the proposal would have the support of the members generally.

The Chairman: I think you wish me to take it as a suggestion for the Executive Committee?

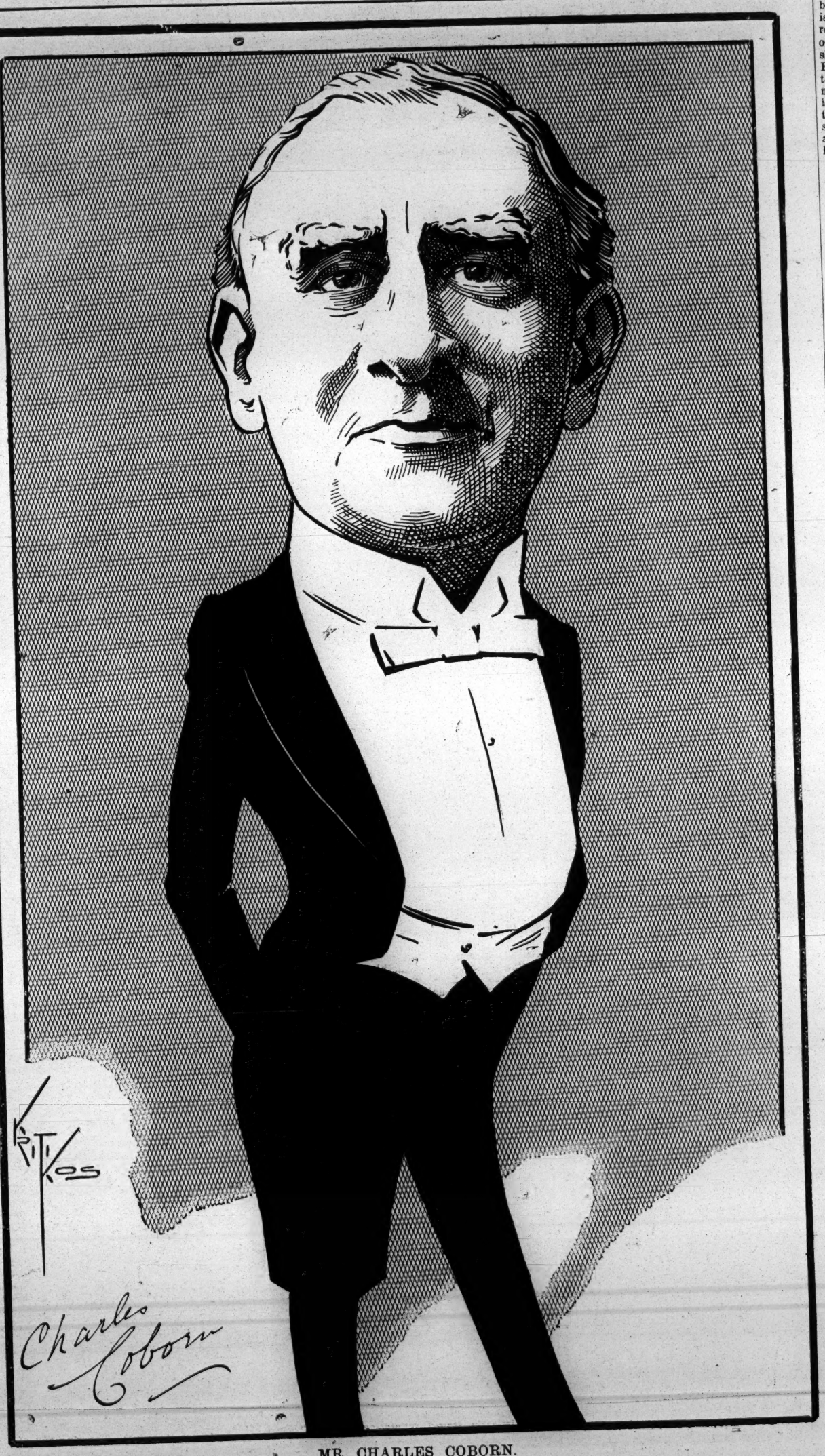
Mr. Voyce: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Wal Pink said it was his pleasing duty to propose a vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding over what might be called a record short meeting. There was no need, he was sure, for him to detain them with words of praise for their Chairman.

Mr. Fred. Russell, who seconded the motion, said that the report they had heard read that evening showed that the V.A.F. was in a substantial position. They all valued Mr. Clemart's services very highly, and there could be no doubt he was the right man in the right place. He had much pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks to his old friend.

The resolution was passed amid loud applause.

The Chairman, in reply, said that the V.A.F. had his earnest consideration, not only in the office, but also when he was out of the office. He sometimes dreamt of it; only a few nights ago he dreamt that he had written a leading article for the official organ of the Federation, but woke up to find he had done nothing of the sort. He regretted the absence of Mr. Joe O'Gorman, and he was sure they would join with him in wishing Mr. O'Gorman the best of luck in America. With regard to Mr. Fred. Russell, he was one of the early pioneers of the "Performer." They did not see much of Mr. Wal Pink at the committee meetings, but he always did valuable work whenever called upon. He was sure they could not have a better secretary than Mr. Fred Herbert. They had worked very amicably together since Mr. Herbert had joined the staff. In conclusion, the Chairman said he trusted that next year they would have even a better report.



MR. CHARLES COBORN.

Mr. Charles Coborn advocated co-operation amongst music-hall artists as far back as the '80's. Then his was like the voice of one crying in the wilderness of indifference or the wastes of apathy; but he never slackened his efforts to promote the wish nearest his heart—professional union.

"MORE WAYS THAN ONE."

Musical Sketch, by James Horan, Produced at the Palladium on Monday, Jan. 27.

Trixie Flyte ..... Miss Beatrice McKenzie
Jack Hastings ..... Mr. Walter Shannon
Chas. Gana Ibsen ..... Mr. Tom Shannon
Janitor and Model ..... Mr. Chas Entwistle
Maid ..... Miss Winnie B. Wilhams

The peculiar form of American humour is strongly represented in "More Ways Than One," by James Horan, which is this week imported into the Palladium programme. The interlude is made the medium for the introduction of several operatic selections, beginning with the Prologue to "Pagliacci" and ending with "Carmen."

An impecunious vocalist invades an artist's studio with the object of using his telephone, and, finding him out, impersonates him and arranges with an actress to call and have her portrait painted. The sudden return of the owner upsets the intruder's plans, but the artist consents to aid the deception in order that the singer may prove his vocal abilities in a scena, in which he induces the actress to take part. The artist's generosity is still further trespassed upon, for the singer, having borrowed the name and business of the artist, also puts on his dress clothes and goes off with the actress to dinner.

The efforts of the singer to accomplish his purpose and the resources to which he is put are very funny, and occasionally ludicrous. The part was played with unfailing animation and spirit by Mr. Walter Shannon, who possesses an excellent baritone, and was heard with pleasure in the operatic excerpts above referred to. Excellent support was rendered by Miss Beatrice McKenzie, who is also vocally gifted, and sang melodiously in the duets with the artist, gaining some exceptionally high notes with ease. Mr. Tom Shannon did good service as the perplexed artist. The performers were heartily recalled at the close.

VARIED ENTERTAINMENT.

The Palladium bill is undeniably rich in star turns. Little Tich is here with some of his choicest selections, including his sailor song, and that of "Curiosity." The little comedian's oddities keep the house in a most hilarious mood, and his impersonation of the fairy queen is irresistibly comical. The Follies, in their "Voice Trial," are in their finest form, and laughter is loud and long while the various aspirants for Folly fame are undergoing the ordeal. An agreeable item is that furnished by the Milandro quartet, who, attractively arrayed in pretty Georgian costume, perform a number of concerted items most harmoniously on violin and a "violin organ." The leader of the quartet is an especially accomplished executant, and the remainder of the troupe play melodiously. The graceful acting of Miss Margaret Halstan is widely admired in the sketch, "The Great Look," with Mr. Arthur Chesney in his refreshingly funny portrayal of the playwright. Mr. Geo. Gilbey keeps the audience highly entertained as a collector of curiosities, but would do well to dispense with the fig-leaf "gag." Mr. Charles Gulliver's scheme of entertainment also embraces the Four Wards, singers and dancers; T. E. Dunville, the "elongated lump of comedy"; Sam Mayo, the immobile comedian; and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

VARIETY BOOMING IN LEICESTER.

The annual meeting of the Leicester Palace Theatre, Ltd., was held on Thursday afternoon at the theatre, Belgrave-gate, Mr. Oswald Stoll presiding.

The balance-sheet and profit and loss account showed that the profit for the year, including £205 3s. 9d. brought forward from last year, and after allowing for debenture interest and depreciation, as well as other charges against revenue, was £5,552 14s. 5d., out of which an interim dividend was paid in August last, which, with tax thereon, amounted to £1,360, leaving a balance of £4,192 14s. 5d. The directors recommend that this balance should be appropriated as follows:—(1) In payment of a final dividend for the second half of the year at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum (less income tax), £1,921; (2) in carrying forward to the current year's accounts subject to the managing director's remuneration for the past year and tax on final dividend, £2,271 14s. 5d. The company had acquired the freehold property, 28 and 28a, Belgrave-gate, adjoining the theatre, to meet probable further improvements for shelter, &c. The rental of the property would practically cover the interest on the outlay.

Mr. Oswald Stoll moved the adoption of the balance-sheet. He said it was a very pleasant experience for the directors to be able to send out a balance-sheet showing an increase in profits amounting to £5,400 in one year. The company had passed through what he might call the valley of depression, and he hoped they might look back upon that experience and continue to climb the hill of prosperity, which he trusted they had now reached. Their position was distinctly better than it had been for a number of years. He formally moved that the profit be appropriated as suggested.

Mr. S. Brukewich seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. Walter Battle was re-elected to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Frank Bertram, the well-known comedian, tells the following story against himself. During his second pantomime season at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, the local postmen were giving a benefit concert, and they applied to the manager asking him to send them one or two turns. On the evening of the concert they made a special request for Mr. Bertram's services, and he arranged with the gentleman who was playing the Demon King to have some fun. The Demon King being the possessor of a very fine baritone voice was to sing "The Diver," and Mr. Bertram was to sit in the audience and continually interrupt. Eventually the singer was to challenge him to sing the song better, and Mr. Bertram was to accept the challenge and was then to sing a song he had popularised the year before, "Any Rags."

After the performance they drove to the hall, Mr. Bertram being disguised, and then the baritone made for the platform and Mr. Bertram selected a dark corner. The singer commenced the lines "In a cavern deep," when Mr. Bertram interrupted with "What a rotten song!" A little later he interrupted again with "What a rotten singer." This time there was an uproar, with cries of "Throw him out," and a big postman tapped him on the shoulder, saying that if he did it again he would have to leave. This kept him quiet until the prearranged cue—"Sleeping alone"—the third time the singer repeated the line "Sleeping alone" Mr. Bertram chimed in with "My word, what a lot of sleep!" This caused an uproar. Before he knew where he was, five burly postmen had caught hold of him and had expelled him. The singer leaped from the platform to save him, but it was too late, he was outside. However, the business was explained and the singer returned to the platform and announced that he had decided to give the gentleman a chance, as he had said he could sing the song better. With a false moustache Mr. Bertram was not recognised, even on the platform, and he met with a storm of hisses and boo's. As soon as he started to sing he was at once recognised; the audience saw the joke, and after an encore they carried him shoulder high to the refreshment-room. Mr. Bertram admitted that he was not prepared for the rough handling he received, but as the joke came off all right it did not matter, but needless to say, although there were many invitations to repeat it in the town, he very politely but firmly refused.

THE LATE AUGUSTE VAN BIENE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I turn back the pages of memory to the days when Mr. Van Biene was conducting at the Olympic in the early eighties; the production a short-lived comic opera, "Marigold."

It was at a later period that I knew him more intimately when he came into the provinces with those productions which he ran in conjunction with Horace Lingard.

Too many of us are apt to forget that it was not "The Broken Melody" which first bid him on to the legitimate boards, but Planquette's version of "Rip Van Winkle." Needless to say, of course, the Dutchman played the part to life.

I remember on one occasion being sent by my editor to interview the actor and musician. I arrived behind the scenes after the second act of "The Melody." At two o'clock in the morning, the night watchman, making his rounds, discovered us both sitting round the cosy fire of the Star's dressing-room; and who says theatrical dressing-rooms are places to be eschewed? Somehow or the other we had hit upon topics of interest, instead of the purely stereotyped interview, we turned to topics of more intimate interest; Rotterdam, Brussels, and Copenhagen, all brought up recollection of people we knew.

It is of some of the things talked of in that interview I now would like to dwell. Those who thought Van Biene had grown hard-shelled and lacked sentiment knew not the man. I remember him telling me of the start of his career from his Dutch home, when he went forth to seek "the gold-paved streets of London," and then of his consequent disillusion. There is a little incident in that start that possibly has never seen the light of day in cold print before. His mother was a devout daughter of Israel, and she trained her children in the same direction. When the boy, Van Biene, left to go out in the world, one of his possessions—in fact, the most treasured—was the talis (praying scarf), worn by all Hebrews at public worship.

In good fortune and bad it was his "Mosseltoo," or, as we in modern world say, mascotte; and for years that one possession reposed carefully in the case alongside of his treasured 'cello. No offer would ever, he told me, have tempted him to part with that one token of his mother's love.

He told me another story that has not been recounted in the many anecdotes that have from time to time appeared. He happened, in the days before he was famous, to be playing in the open air in a Continental city. Amongst the spectators was a kindly gentleman, who, at the conclusion of the piece, brought him a small gold coin, accompanying the gift with these words: "Gut gespielt, mein freund." He afterwards ascertained that he who had styled him "mein freund" was no less a personage than the King of Denmark, who loved to play the rôle of Haroun al Raschid amongst his own and other people.

Many more are the stories I could tell of one who combined the cleverness of the cosmopolitan with the beautiful artistry of the musician. One of whom, according to the phrase of the orthodox members of his faith one may well say, "God rest his soul in peace."—Yours faithfully,

E. E. COHEN.

WHAT WE SHALL COME TO.

"MISTER WOMAN" IN A.D. 2013.

Produced for the First Time at the Olympia, Shoreditch, on Monday, Jan. 27.

Mrs. Victoria Strongmind..Miss Eva Mansfield
Mr. Strongmind ..... Mr. Leigh Ellis
Reggie ..... Mr. Mark Kingsley
Captain Phyllis ..... Miss St. Laurence
Mary Brown ..... Miss Ida Strathan
P.C. Lizzie ..... Miss Le Serge

Period, 2013.

Messrs. Frank Kingsley and E. C. Carter have adopted a novel theme for their comedy, "Mister Woman," produced at the Olympia, Shoreditch, on Monday. It deals with the time (supposed to be A.D. 2013) when a reversal of the present relations between the sexes has taken place, and man is the weaker if not the fairer sex. Mr. and Mrs. Strongmind have a son, Reggie, who is in love with Captain Phyllis, an adventuress. He, in his turn, is beloved by Mary Brown, an engineer, who visits the parents to obtain their consent to her marrying Reggie, which consent they give. Phyllis, meanwhile, persuades Reggie to elope with her. In the second scene we find him with a child, deserted by Phyllis, who has not married him. Befriended by a "Sloppess" on the embankment, he determines to return to his parents, and throw himself on their mercy. The third scene opens with his mother and father bewailing the loss of their child, and the mother's refusal to receive him back unless he has a wedding ring. His return greatly astonishes his father, who nearly collapses, but eventually agrees to assist him. Mary Brown enters, and asks him to marry her, and in order to mother the baby he agrees. Phyllis arrives and demands her baby, but is informed the child is Reggie's, and is about to depart, when a female constable arrives and arrests her for forgery. The curtain falls on the reconciliation, and the happy marriage of Mary Brown and Reggie.

The company is an excellent one. Miss Mansfield is good as Mrs. Strongmind, and gave a very clever impersonation. One of the best performances was that of Mr. Leigh Ellis, who presented a really clever study of the poor downtrodden husband, Mr. Strongmind. Mr. Mark Kingsley was quite successful as Reggie, depicting the weak-kneed young man quite naturally; Captain Phyllis had a capable representative in Miss St. Laurence, but we should be very sorry indeed for the time to arrive when we see charming young ladies in a state of intoxication on the Embankment. Miss Ida Strathan gave a very dainty performance as Mary Brown, and one can quite imagine Reggie falling a victim to her charms after his previous experience. Miss Le Serge was natural as the portly P.C. Lizzie.

Although the audience received the production with every token of approval, we think the blue pencil will have to be employed before the piece scores a great success, as some of the remarks are hardly in good taste.

"THE PERCH CLUB."

At the Palace Theatre, Watford, was produced on Monday evening by Mr. Harry Tate what is described as an "acrobatic comedy," entitled "The Perch Club," with the following cast:—

The Hon. Woody .....Mr. W. Woody
Little Billee .....Mr. W. Well
Angus Carmichael.....Mr. Luxmoore Hockin
The Hall Porter .....Mr. E. Baker

This sketch has been cleverly devised, in that it gives all the necessary opportunities to a couple of clever people, whose buffoonery is punctuated by much smart acrobatism. The tricks are surprisingly real, and in their performance, intrepidity and alertness and technical finish are conspicuous. The trifle is excellently mounted. The extremely clever acrobatic feats are carried through by Mr. Woody and Mr. Well. The production had a most cordial reception on Monday.

At the same house Ted E. Moss, comedian; Mlle. Lolita, in a series of artistic visions; the Daunton Shaw Troupe; Reg Wentworth, comedy artiste; the Four Clovelly Girls, in an exceptionally clever act; the always popular Tom Wootwell; the Joculars, in business of a kind that one would like to see more of; Carrie Sylvester, and the Bioscope complete an enjoyable programme.

ARTISTES' PRESS ALBUM.

This column is placed at the disposal of artistes who desire to give added publicity to the opinions passed by the Press upon their acts. Particulars of insertion may be obtained on application to the Advertisement Manager.

IMPERIAL MANCHU TROUPE.

The Imperial Manchu Troupe of Chinese magicians and conjurers, under the direction of Col. Matse Young, make a highly successful first appearance in England in the rest of the programme. In an elaborate and gorgeous setting they accomplish many original acrobatic and juggling feats, their manipulation of several heavy pieces of earthenware being specially neat and entertaining. The troupe should attain much popularity in England.—The "Stage." Open February, Winter Garden, Berlin, two months; Apollo, Vienna, one month, to follow. Return to England in May.

LUDWIG AMANN.

Another success at the same hall is Ludwig Amann, an impersonator of celebrities, who, since his recent arrival in this country, has achieved great repute as one of the best facial mimics seen for some time. His numerous life-like impersonations raise the enthusiasm of the audience to a pitch seldom seen in a house of entertainment.—"The Era," Jan. 18.

SIR GEO. ALEXANDER AT PALACE.

"A SOCIAL SUCCESS."

A Play, in One Act, by Max Beerbohm, Produced on Monday, Jan. 27, at the Palace Theatre.

Tommy Dixon ..... Sir George Alexander
The Earl of Amersham ..Mr. Frederick Kerr
Henry Robbins ..... Mr. C. M. Lowne
Hawkins ..... Mr. Ernest Benham
The Countess of Amersham..Miss Kate Cutler
The Duchess of Huntingdon
Miss Muriel Barnby

Sir George Alexander long since conquered the world of the theatres, having nearly completed a quarter of a century as an actor-manager, and on Monday he made his entry into variety in a characteristic trifle of mordant satire from the pen of Mr. Max Beerbohm, entitled, "A Social Success." "Society," with a big S, has just worshipped Tommy Dixon, who groans under the penalties of his own popularity. He is suffering from the boredom of being lionised by expectant mammas and young married women with "yearnings." The social round—the conventions—to him are utterly wearying. He does things that would banish any ordinary society man from Mayfair drawing-rooms. He even wears a cloth cap with brown boots and a frock-coat, and displays himself in the window of his most exclusive club. Does that exclude him from the companionship of his effusive friends? Not a bit of it. They regard the extraordinary spectacle as an example of splendid moral courage, and Tommy is more popular than ever. A more drastic step must be taken. The *enfant gâté* invites several of his chums—three of them with titles—to a card party at his chambers, and wins in the most extraordinary fashion. He is, however, watched narrowly by the Earl of Amersham, who discovers that the plurality of aces produced by Tommy comes from his shirtsleeves. Vehemently denounced and abused by my lord, who has proposed him at his club, Tommy admits his guilt; the guests immediately depart; and the host, now alone, helps himself to a whisky and Apollinaris. Just as he is about to drink it, his friend Robbins takes it from him and pours it on the carpet, because he suspects that Tommy is about to poison himself.

Tommy laughingly reassures him, and is quite ready to face the consequences of his escapade. Freedom at last! He thinks so. But the telephone bell arouses him from his pleasant reflections. The Countess 'phones her expressions of regret for her rudeness, and offers her hand in marriage; the Countess of Amersham comes personally to "share his lot"; and the Earl follows in order to convince him that he has entirely forgiven the awkward incident. "There are worse things than cheating at cards, my boy!" The Earl's incidental references to his wife's fondness for gossip provoke her to throw down the screen which hides her. In ordinary circumstances this would raise a cloud of suspicion; but the Earl congratulates the wayward one on the sweetness of her continued confidence in Tommy, who finds that, after all, his desperate stratagem avails him nothing. He certainly will have to try big game shooting; a much better and more natural thing for a young man of spirit to do than branding himself by the odious title of card-sharper.

Sir George Alexander played Tommy with the light touch that has won such favourable recognition in some mercurial pieces produced at St. James's. Miss Kate Cutler acted with a broadly humorous touch the part of the infatuated Countess of Amersham; and Mr. Fred Kerr realised that aristocratic noodle, the Earl of Amersham, with his customary ability. Mr. C. M. Lowne had little to do as Robbins, but was quite admirable. There was much enthusiasm at the close of the piece, and Sir George was called several times before the tabs to receive the hearty felicitations of a crowded and fashionable house.

THE PALLADIUM MINSTRELS.

A NEW "CORNER."

The strength of the Palladium Minstrels was appreciably increased on Monday afternoon when Mr. Johnny Danvers took his seat at the prompt side corner and received a hearty welcome. The favourite comedian was in his finest form, and his wheeze about the "poultry in the garden" went to an accompaniment of hearty laughter. His song of "Ebenezer Webb" was rendered with his accustomed drollery, and the dance with which it was supplemented was executed with all his old quaintness and agility. An encore was inevitable, and Mr. Danvers responded with a funny burlesque of a hornpipe that won further appreciation. Mr. Danvers also adds to the enjoyment of the artistically staged plantation sketch, "The Home-coming of Massa Jack," in which he sings a song of "Tapioca."

Crowded houses continue to mark the progress of Mr. Charles Gulliver's enterprise, and a full measure of entertainment is furnished. Particular enjoyment is derived from the ballad singing of Mr. Ernest Pitt and Master Sidney Kendall. The stump speech of Mr. Charles Clarkson is the cause of considerable amusement, and the humours of Little Thomas, Mr. Wally Scott, and Uncle Mack, appeal powerfully to all. One of the most entertaining items of the afternoon is "The rag-time goblin man," sung by Mr. W. Haines, in the course of which lights are manipulated in the darkened auditorium with picturesque effect. The diversions of "Dr. Whackem's Academy" continue to be fully appreciated.

At the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, in honour of the birthday of Robert Burns, the management are giving recitals of scenes and incidents in the poet's life, the descriptive dialogue being recited by Mr. Nicol Pentland, and at the same time pictures of Burns' cottage at Ayr, Alloway Kirk, Mauchline, Kirkoswald, Ballochmyle, and many other places are shown, with all the famous portraits and paintings in which the poet appears. This is in addition to the Kinemacolor films.

THE OLD-TIME SING-SONG.

Just now there is much discussion going on in regard to the old-time music hall, and to those of us who have fond remembrances of past times and past favourites in Variety Land, a few words regarding some of the beginnings of the music hall and its progress may not be out of place.

Although the Canterbury, under the skilful management of the late Charles Morton, has always been claimed to be the first real music hall, we must not forget that the Grapes, afterwards called the Surrey—not the Surrey Theatre—and later the Winchester, was going fit and strong long before the Canterbury opened—in 1852. Again sight must not be lost of the fact that the old tea gardens, of which more anon, especially when attached to, or were adjuncts of cosy and comfortable taverns, were the forerunners of the variety stage, as well as the concert rooms that were often a speciality of many inns and public-houses of good standing. And these tea gardens where our grandfathers and great-grandfathers loved to disport with their sweethearts and wives, were scattered all over the metropolis, the suburbs, and the provinces. In the country the hotels and taverns used to have special rooms set apart for farmers' meetings, harvest gatherings, and other jovial functions, when, after the dinner cloth was removed, native talent was called upon to exert itself with quaint ballads and comic songs.

The "Cyder Cellars."

In London, naturally, the sing-songs were a great attraction. Long before the Canterbury threw open its doors as a tavern with the addition of a "free and easy" in 1848, the Crown and Anchor tavern in the Strand—it really extended from Arundel-street eastward to Milford-lane—was noted for its sing-songs and concerts. In 1729 Strype described it as "the Crown Tavern; a large and curious house with good rooms and other conveniences fit for entertainments." Johnson and Boswell were diners at the house, where, by the way, was instituted the Academy of Music, 1710. The Crown and Anchor, like many an old London inn, has a very interesting history. Lying before me as I write is the programme of a Concert and Ball which took place at the tavern, Monday evening, April 28, 1845, when ballads, comic songs, and descriptive scenas were given. And similar entertainments took place throughout London at other jovial houses of call. Moreover, we know that there were many smoking concerts and sing-songs, especially the latter, that took place under dubious conditions in a number of public-houses, where the songs and the singers were not always quite as they should have been. We have only to refer first to "Sam Hall," that notorious "hanging song," and the Cyder Cellars in Maiden-lane, Strand. A small part of "Sam Hall" will suffice.

It was sung by David Ross. "Sam Hall" was the chaunt of a chimney-sweep, who was to be hanged for murder the next morning, and, having some faint glimmering of the theory of heredity, endeavoured to fetter his crimes on his forebears.

My name it is Sam Hall,
Chimney sweep,
Chimney sweep,
My name it is Sam Hall,
Chimney sweep,
My name it is Sam Hall,
I've robbed great and small,
And I pays for all,
Damn your eyes.

It was the realistic intensity of the singer that caused Thackeray, Douglas Jerrold, Charles Dickens, Albert Smith, and George Augustus Sala to visit the Cellars, where they would have supper, to listen to the song more than once. Clement Scott says when he heard it: "Some people thought the grim song was blasphemous; others considered it vulgar. For my own part it was to me intensely tragic." The Coal Hole, afterwards the Fountain Tavern, then the Occidental, and now partly covered by Terry's Theatre, was another place where ribald songs and doubtful performances took place, but though Thackeray makes Captain Costigan, in "The Newcomes," sing an improper song at Evans's, in Covent Garden, I have a programme and book of words of the concerts of this old haunt, published about 1857, in which the madrigals and glees and solos are of the most irreproachable nature. However, I believe that Evans's, after Paddy Green's demise, fell into disrepute. Anyhow, equivocal songs were sung there, but it was before "The Newcomes" was published.

"The Father of the Halls."

If I seem to be wandering from the point, it is only to emphasise the fact that before Charles Morton appeared on the scene, the sing-songs in public-houses and taverns were not well conducted, and decorum in both song and singer was largely absent. Moreover, we must not forget that in the early part of the last century, many of the songs delivered and published were of an absolutely low and indecent character.

Pierce Egan, in his "Life in London," gives full evidence of this. In the "Universal Songster" of 1825, to which I have referred, and which was republished not so many years ago, there are lyrics that make a man ashamed to see them in print. And there are others, so that Charles Morton, who was rightly named the "Father of the Halls," did an immensity of good in his excellent way, though he was only the pioneer, as some of the "ditties," popular even with the patrons of the regular halls, were not above suspicion. There is no need to attempt to give a list of the public-houses where the old and coarse, and unnecessarily vulgar, sing-songs, were held, because they were in evidence in all parts of London, but, strange to say, the worst were to be found along Fleet-street, the Strand, with off-shoots in courts and side streets, right through to Leicester-square and the Haymarket, and so into the St. James's district.

The Old "Sing-Songs."

They were nearly all worked on the same principle, except the terrible night houses, which were dens of iniquity and debauchery. These were chiefly gambling hells. But there were scores of the better class. The majority of these places were all worked on the same principle. There was no charge to go in, but you found it was not so easy to get out, as the waiter was always waiting for you with an extortionate bill, whether you had paid at the time for what you had ordered or not. Perhaps your memory would be defective. The waiter would correct it for you with his little list of "extras." There was always a chairman, the forerunner of the later chairman—now defunct—of the music halls, who had a "whistle" that always required wetting. The subsidised pianist was ready to play, sing, or vamp anything, and he generally opened the ball. Then a gentleman in the audience would be asked to oblige, or he would volunteer, a song or recitation. The chairman was ever ready to help with a little vocalisation to keep the ball rolling, or a comic speech, and then he would induce one or other of his patrons, who thought themselves young bloods, to sing a song, and so it would go on, with the waiter ever busy on his rounds, and "Give your orders, gents," until twelve, one, two, and even three o'clock in the morning—it was not until about 1872 that taverns were compelled by Act of Parliament to close at half-past twelve. Hot suppers, chops, steaks, etc., could always be had for those who could afford the whims of the management in regard to charges, and pies of every imaginable kind. It all depended upon individual taste, if not the locality of the institution. In some houses "trotters," fried fish and potatoes, with sausages, made up for the joint, or perhaps, bread and cheese and pickles. Always pickles and usually brown stout. Gin was plentiful, and so was hot water with brandy or rum. However, there is no need to dilate upon the luxuries obtainable, though incidentally it may be stated that the popular whisky of to-day was quite a rarity. At first, and for a long time, the vocalists were amateurs and never paid for their services, except the landlord was generous in the way of small refreshments. However, as time went on, the patrons of the sing-song became more regular and more exacting, and so the talented amateur would receive a small fee, and then came in the professional element, springing from all classes and quarters, vocalists in the bud, and lion comiques and stars to be. And so the sanded floors were swept and cleaned, a better apartment arranged with a small platform, and the music hall in the being commenced with better surroundings, better accommodation, and a better understanding of what sensible citizens required in the way of pleasure, mixed with a degree of comfort, with respectable entertainments, and a happy combination of good-fellowship.

S. J. A. F.

"THE LITTLE DEVIL CHOOSES."

Costume Comedy, in One Act, by Frederick Stanley and Kate Gallschalt, Produced at the Hippodrome, Manchester, on Monday, Jan. 27.

Harry Linton .....Mr. C. S. Collings
Burgess .....Mr. H. Chanter Gordon
Jenny .....Miss Vita Spencer
Kitty Clive .....Miss Alice Crawford

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The action of this little sketch is laid in the Georgian period. Harry Linton, a "buck," and a "blade," on his way from a score of conquests by heart and sword in Bath, puts up at the Tabard Inn on the road to London. He is a very fine gentleman, full of swagger and self-praise, and by no means disposed to concede that any other gentleman, either in Bath or in London, could ever hope to compare with him in style or valour. Supper is laid for him in the only room that remains at liberty in the inn. As he is about to settle down to the comforts of the warm room, the attention of Burgess, the innkeeper, and his daughter, Jenny, is attracted by the sound of a breakdown outside. Jenny presently announces that the unfortunate traveller in the coach outside is a lady who must be accommodated with a room and hospitality, and Linton proposes that she shall share his room and supper, with pleasure, provided she be young and pretty. The new arrival is not unknown at the inn. She is Kitty Clive, the actress, on her way to play at the theatre in London with David Garrick.

Kitty is a very fine young person, most decidedly pretty; and on the situation being explained to her—with no secret of the braggart claims of Linton—she mischievously decides to make the most she can of the opportunity to teach the gallant a lesson. She pretends to be merely an unsophisticated country maid, on her way to be taken care of by an aunt in London, and her ways are so arch and credulous that Linton quickly falls under the spell of her charms. About his experiences with big people and fine ladies in London he enlarges wondrously. Theatres also he knows well, and actresses galore; even Kitty Clive, who plays with Garrick, is an intimate acquaintance of his, though he cannot speak altogether complimentarily about the personal attractions of "the baggage," as he calls her. Of his exploits with men, sartorially and otherwise, his talk is contemptuously grandiose. He has picked faults in Beau Nash; while as for duelling, only one fate could happen to any man who crossed rapier with Harry Linton. Kitty suffers this in the best of humour, sharing supper with him, and teasing him all the while with her attractiveness. She springs a wager upon him, for a locket he wears (in which is supposed to be the picture of Kitty Clive), that for all his quality a woman shall worst him within twenty-four hours; and he agrees; further, that in the event of his defeat his ears shall be boxed in the bargain, "if the little devil chooses." Meanwhile, Linton keeps on drinking wine until he is half intoxicated; he and Kitty step a measure together, to her singing of an old English song; and, finally, so overcome is he by the charms of this wonderful country girl, he can do no other than pursue her round the table for a kiss and an embrace.

Now Kitty changes suddenly. He shall know what it means to attempt to insult a lady who is affianced to the redoubtable Beau Lestrange, the undefeated young duellist whom men face only as they face certain death. Beau Lestrange is upstairs, and shall come at once to avenge the affront. Let Linton prepare. Kitty goes to fetch her lover, and Linton begins to show the white feather (though covering himself well by bombast) as Burgess, the innkeeper, who is in the secret, assures him that Lestrange is in the habit of killing a man a day, and is always in the most supple and formidable condition for the job. The duel is prepared for, and Lestrange appears. Of course the latter is Kitty Clive herself; but she can use the blade, and Linton's state of "funk" and real want of skill enables her to pink him a little and finally disarm him. She then discloses herself, obtains the locket (which contains no picture at all), and, finally, by way of putting the finishing touch to this lesson in modesty and good manners, "the little devil chooses" to box Linton's ears soundly.

Miss Alice Crawford sustained the rôle of Kitty Clive with the display of many charming attributes, both of art and personality. Mr. C. S. Collings played Harry Linton with all the requisite airs and graces of a boastful gallant of the period; and the parts of Burgess and his daughter Jenny were ably filled by Mr. H. Chanter Gordon and Miss Vita Spencer.

The Stoll Suburban Houses.—H. G. Pélissier and the Follies are due at the Hackney Empire next week. The principals at the Shepherd's Bush Empire will include Wish Wynne; Charles Austin and Co., in "The Bombshell"; and the Three Collegians. Chung Ling Soo and Chanti, the protean dancer, will appear at Chiswick Empire; while at the Wood Green Empire G. H. Chirgwin and Max Erard's new musical scena, "Shepherdland," will be seen.

MISS ELISE MALPASS'

Great Success in Leeds with

LITTLE SHEPHERDESS OF DEVON

Grand Theatre, Leeds.
January 27, 1913.

The Star Music Publishing Co., Ltd.,
London.

Dear Sirs,

Miss Elise Malpass, who has scored such an *enormous success* in the "Humpty Dumpty" Pantomime at the above Theatre with your famous song, **"The Shepherdess of Devon,"** and her classical Dancing, has been rebooked by John Hart, Esq., for Pantomime 1913-1914.

Miss Malpass's success is undoubtedly yours, and please accept our united congratulations and best thanks.

Yours very truly,
C. S. MALPASS.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 9*).

SCARBOROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock; M., Mr. G. H. Hawkins.—This week: Mr. Gus Levaine's pantomime, "Cinderella." The company includes: Mr. Bert Leond, Mr. Cyril Lane, Mr. Joe Knapp, Mr. Alf Hicks, Mr. Will Peters, Mr. Arthur Collins, Miss Fannie Collins, Miss Ruby Mildred, Miss Dolly Brough, Miss Ida Conroy, Mr. Tom Williams, Miss Lizzie Levaine. The specialities are provided by Langford and Ella, equilibrists; Otho Ethardo, juggler; Hicks and Peter, mirth providers; Miss Dolly Parode; Carlo Reno, the india-rubber man; and the Dancing Durano Girls. Monday, Feb. 3, for three nights, "The Silver King." Thursday, Feb. 6, for three nights, "The Bondman."

AQUARIUM.—M. D. & S., Mr. Walter Kitchingman; Asst. S., Mr. H. Bench; Mus. D., Mr. Alf. Candler.—This week: Deszo Kordy, 'cellist; Ida Homer, vocalist; J. H. Greener, the singing collier; Doré and his Lilliputians; Jim Max, swell comedian; Harry Cotton, comedian; the Four Astors, rag-time dancers and singers; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

THEATRE ROYAL CINEMA.—Sole P., Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside; M., Messrs. E. L. Garside and Quinton Gibson. — This week: Butler and Ward, in "Oh! What Luck"; Walter Freear, comedian and dancer; Samuel Woodin, popular tenor; Queenie Emmott, vocalist and dancer; and pictures.

SHEERNESS.

HIPPODROME.—Sole L., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. George Ridley; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Hughes.—This week: Mr. Hill-Mitchelson, jun's, company in "A Queen for a Wife." The company includes: Mr. Warwick Wellington, Mr. Ernest Fosbrooke, Mr. Felix Pitte, Mr. Michael Staples, Mr. Arthur Robinson, Mr. William Garbois, Mr. Henry Armytage, Mr. Tom J. Taylor, Mr. Walter Willson, Mr. John Lytton, Messrs. Tutchlin Howard, Harcourt Williamson, Mrs. Bennett, Miss Rosie Russell, Miss Frederica Williams, and Miss Alice Belmore.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. and T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Seldom has the Lyceum stage borne a greater weight of artistic scenic grandeur than is presented in the sumptuous mounting of "Ben Hur," the dramatic version, by William Young, of the famous story by General Lew Wallace. There was a large and thoroughly appreciative audience on Monday, and the principal scenes by R. McCleery, J. Dodson, and Bruce Smith, were loudly applauded. The dresses, properties, and the realistic chariot race were all on a par with the glowing picturesqueness of the theme, and the acting of the members of Mr. George Dance's company was in the right spirit. The three wise men in the prelude, earnestly represented by Mr. Cecil Tresillian, Mr. Horace Fearley, and Mr. Charles Smythe, immediately arrested the close attention of the house. The favourite actor, Mr. Philip Desborough, cleverly realised the character of Ben Hur, and he was repeatedly applauded. Mr. Hatton Sinclair submitted an excellent study of Simonides. Mr. Douglas looked the part of the young Roman patrician as Messala, and his acting was bold and incisive. Miss Mildred Cottell as Iras was excellent, and good work was done by Miss Edith Blande as Ben Hur's mother, Miss Eva Rowland as Esther, Miss Elizabeth Watson as Amrah, Miss Eileen Atherley as Tirzah, Mr. Edward Valentine as Ilderhim, Mr. Walter Underwood as Arrius, Mr. Vivian Harbord as Malluch, and Mr. Charles Maverne as Samballat. Next week: "Miss Hook of Holland."

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Asst. M., Mr. M. Mahony.—"Cinderella" continues to give pleasure to large audiences, and the principals, ballet, chorus and beautiful scenery have all their many admirers.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. D. Forsdike; A. M. and T., Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—"Mother Goose" is a right merry pantomime of the good old-fashioned sort, and is still being played to crowded and enthusiastic houses.

EMPIRE PALACE. — P., The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. L. M. Stewart. — The Eight Elliott Savonas, fresh from their notable transatlantic triumphs, opened to a big house on Monday in their unique musical and spectacular act, "The Palace of Orpheus." The "William Tell" overture, with novel effects, brought down the house. Those old Sheffield favourites, the Craggs, reappear in their acrobatic farcical sketch, "Billy." The Russell Trio play a lively vocal farce, "A Pair of Jacks." Mr. Daley Cooper and Miss Mabel Lait submit a laughable vaudeville, and the generous programme also includes Thora, a talented ventriloquist; Mr. Will Hay, comedian; Mr. George Ray, entertainer, Peter and Potts, in "The Comedienne and the Call Boy"; the Rawsons, clever musical entertainers; and the Empire pictures. Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Grimmett.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Sheffield Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Frank Poole.—The *pièce de résistance* is the novel and screamingly funny absurdity, "Flyaway's Derby," in which the clever comedian, Mr. Jimmy Learmouth, appears, supported by Messrs. Peterman and Ricketts' company. Others appearing this week are Mr. Syd May, who is always welcome in his lifelike mimicry and humorous wrestling burlesque; Dorris and Francis, dancers; Miss Edna Zora and company, in the delightful vocal and scenic sketch, "The Garden of Music"; Shields and Rodgers, in Wild-West pastimes; Max Laube, whistler; Miss Mabel Moss, comedienne; pictures; and Felix and Fisher, gymnasts, in a smart act. Mus. D., Mr. J. G. Hahn. Matinée on Thursday at 2. Next week: "Robin Hood."

NEW CENTRAL HALL. — M., Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—The new arrivals this week are Hartley and Vivienne, in a comedy entertainment, with music; Mr. Jack Edge, vocal comedian; and Miss May, vocalist.

BOSTOCK JUNGLE.—M., Mr. Harry C. Tudor. —This popular institution is as high in favour as ever with the local public, and the delights of the fun fair never seem to pall.

MONTGOMERY HALL.—Catlin's Pierrotts are appearing this week with variety items, and a clever "potted" version of "Aladdin."

SHREWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., the Cinema Theatres (Midland), Ltd.; M., Mr. Clifford Wormesley; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Page.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Arthur Hardy's company in "A Butterfly on the Wheel." The company includes: Mr. O. Powis Griffiths, Mr. Cecil Humphreys, Mr. Douglas Greet, Mr. Herbert Greville, Mr. Henry Tyne, Mr. Morrice Seaton, Mr. Norman Leslie, Mr. Shirley Gerard, Mr. Andrew McIntyre, Mr. Edward Herbert, Mr. John Wardrop, Mr. George Cumming, Miss Daisy Cordell, Miss Violet Greville, and Miss Frances Titheradge. T. M., Mr. Herbert Greville.

SMETHWICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Mr. Charles Barnard; M., Mr. James Chapman.—This week (once nightly): Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in "The Prairie Outlaw." The company includes: Mr. F. B. Woulfe, Mr. Terry Davies, Mr. Edward Bikker, Mr. Herbert Sydney, Mr. J. Russell Bogue, Mr. Geo. Scully, Mr. H. Rose, Great Star, J. Jones, Running Elk, F. Campion, Miss Lorraine, Miss Florence Russell, and Miss Nina Blake Adams. Next week: "The Mill Girl and the Miner."

EMPIRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. B. Kennedy; S., Mr. W. H. Adams; A. M., Mr. A. G. Guest.—This week: Les Fresilians (three ladies and one gent.), gymnastic and acrobatic cyclists, in novelty, "Trapeze on a Bicycle"; the Bros. Wright, American entertainers; Peter Shannon, the ideal coon; Bell and Frey, in comedy act; Nellie Neil, comedienne and dancer; Effie White, danseuses, introducing "The Spirit of the Cave"; and pictures.

BEARWOOD COLISEUM.—P., Smethwick Empire, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. B. Kennedy; S., Mr. W. H. Adams; A. M., Mr. H. Kennedy.—This week: The Fur Behans, comedy artistes, vocalists, and dancers, in novel quick-change act; D. W. Watson, post-horn and cornet virtuoso; Johns and Dent, musical comedy couple; and pictures.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Weston; Mus. D., Mr. J. Warwick Moore.—This week: Mr. George Dance's company is presenting "The Sunshine Girl." The cast includes: The Misses Mysie Devine, Jennie Richards, Dorothy Cooper, Ruby Hope, Marion Meynell, Winnifred Volt, Messrs. Jack Morrison, Harry Bentham, Percy Cahill, Richard Saker, and Theodore Leonard. Mus. D., Mr. Albert Vernon. T. M., Mr. George Mudie, jun.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Will Murray. — This week: P. T. Selbit's illusion, "Spirit Paintings"; the Six Ceylons, in "A Dream in an Opium Den"; Avis and Barre, comedy conjurers; John F. Traynor and company in "The Devil's Elbow"; the Motley Four, vocalists; W. B. Raby, comedian; and Aimee Lewis, comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—P., South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. Yardley.—This week (twice nightly): Scenes from "Wild Australia"; Miss L. Harmer; Wittie Wattie Walton; Harry Halsey; Christie Duo; Lenaro; the Max Franklin Troupe of acrobats; and pictures.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Julian Graham.—This week (once nightly): Tom H. Taylor presents "When London Sleeps." The company includes: Mr. John Ames, Mr. Sam T. Lea, Miss Winifred Maine, Miss Alice Helier, Little Madge Hope, Miss Louie Heathfield, Miss Cissie Cleveland, Miss Christine Middleton, Miss Bella Power, Miss Florence Halton, Miss Florence Dalton, Mr. Alfred D. Adams, Mr. Herbert Morgan, Mr. Ernest C. Edwards, Mr. Sydney Arthur, Mr. Victor Mason, Mr. Ridgewood Barrie, Mr. John Belton, Mr. J. E Abbott, Mr. Robert Heaton, and Mr. Edwin Newman. Next week: "The Forty Thieves."

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; B. M., Mr. George Clarkson; M., Mr. T. J. Phillips.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance's company in "The Quaker Girl." The company includes: Frank H. Crimp, Fred Monti, G. McCloskie, Frederick Hobbs, Henry Adnes, J. Lennox, John Duncan, Glen Owen, William Greene, Hilda Stuart, Doris Dennis, Ivy Harcourt, Jenny Armstrong, May Marshall, Kitty Develin, Lucille Vivien, Lily Green, Cissie Guiver, Hilda Bellamy, Ida Harvey, Adela Crispin, Misses B. Maxwell, Nina Catelle, Florence Stanley, D. Crispin, Blanche Scott, Hilda Hoyes, Maud Aynscliffe, Evie Mayne, Kitty O'Brien, Nora Green, Violet Ross, F. Keeley, G. Bruce, D. Carter, Violet Bruce; Messrs. J. Lennox, F. Jackson, R. Smith, H. Kendall, M. Thompson, T. Spencer, D. Hilliery, Percy Emery, etc. Matinée, Saturday, at 2. Next week: Mr. J. F. Elliston's pantomime, "Mother Goose."

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, WINTER GARDENS.—L. & D. G., Mr. W. Simpson Cross, F.Z.S.—This week (twice nightly): W. J. Churchill, "Uncle Willie," in his latest successes; Lindon and McGreve, in burlesque sketch, "Woman"; Fred. Hunt, comedian; Lucy Lind, Lancashire dialect comedienne; Beryl and Benita, in speciality act, "The Boy Scout and the Maid"; Seekheet, boy magician; Joe Huda, negro comedian and dancer; the Three Storks, equilibrists; and the Bioscope.

PIER PAVILION.—L., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Eric Longden.—This week (twice nightly): Chadburn's Young Stars, in vocal and dancing scena, "A Picnic Up River"; Tom E. Hughes, in humorous character sketch; May, Ivy, and Daisy Gilbey, musicians and dancers; Gladys Huxley, comedienne; Les Yost, coloured clay modellers; Hughie Ogilvie, Scottish character comedian; Pedro Pescador, equilibrist, and somersaulting dog; Hilda Davos company, roller skaters; and the Bioscope.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. John W. Coulson; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Hopper.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. S. R. Squires presents "Leah Kleschna." The company includes: William Clayton, Jack Harris, H. Bonhote Wilson, Gerton Ashard, Charles Paige Lawrence, Gerton Ashard, William Scriven, Tom McCaffrey, Frank Darley, Ralph Ingilby, Annie Rogers, Ada Tinsley, Marie Florence, Bertha Spofforth, Nan Appleton, and Emmie Clayton. Next week: "The Prairie Outlaw."

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Empire Palace Theatre, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. Edwin Winter.—This week: Sammy Shields, Scotch comedian; the Hanlon Brothers, in "The Haunted Hotel"; Roland Brothers, athletes; Two Boyds, entertainers; Harry Blake, comedian; the Haytors, in "The Electrician"; Ena Dayne, juvenile comedienne; and pictures.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M., Mr. J. W. Bainton.—This week: Slippere, blind entertainer; Miss Neilson, soprano vocalist; and pictures.

PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE, HIGH SHIELDS.—R. M. and Lecturer, Mr. Wilfrid Bryant; A. M., Mr. Richard H. Taylor.—This week: Johnny McElroy, in comedy sketch, "Helping a Pal"; the Wedburns, comedians; and pictures.

KING'S PICTURES, TEMPERANCE HALL.—P., Mr. James McDonald; R. M., Mr. Morris E. George Elsy; Lecturer, Mr. Herbert H. Cullum.—This week: Dainty Dixie, juvenile comedienne; and pictures.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—L., Messrs Alf Burrows and Thos. Drewett; M., Mr. Burrows.—This week: Mr. Fred Granville's pantomime, "Beauty and the Beast." The company includes: The Misses Jolly Dollie Barrie, Edna Page, Florrie Lucerne, Veda le Court, Ida May, Gertrude Gascoyne, and Annie Terence; Messrs. Sammy Foster, Albert Juan, Alf Page, Bert Grapho and Ernie Dalton. Matinée, Saturday afternoon.

ARCADIA.—P., Mr. R. F. Gowland; M., Mr. H. E. Feather.—This week: Scotts and Cane's 14 juveniles in the Garden of Roses, and pictures.

STAFFORD.

PLAYHOUSE.—L. & M., Mrs. Evelyn Thomas.—This week: Mr. Percy Williams' company, in "The Fatal Wedding." Company comprises: Messrs. F. Liston, G. Kennedy, H. M. Vernon, J. K. Woods, F. Ashley, J. Newton, Misses Maud Warburton, Beatrice Shirley, Blanche Huber, Edith Dews, Hilda May, Daisy Trenchard, Baby Marjorie Aubrey, Masters Tom Grice and Leonard Wricks.

STANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Mark H. Lindon; Mus. D., Mr. J. F. Macdonald.—This week: J. W. Turner's opera company present: On Monday, "Maritana"; on Tuesday, "Cavalleria Rusticana"; on Wednesday, "Il Trovatore"; on Thursday, "Faust"; on Friday, "Don Giovanni"; and on Saturday, "The Bohemian Girl." The company includes: Mr. F. J. Hargrace, Mr. Tom Griffiths, Mr. John Kelly, Mr. C. Leverton, Mr. A. Fisher, Miss Jessie Dennis, Miss Beatrice Howard, Miss Sarah Williams, Mr. Seth Hughes, Miss Ella Vane, Miss Kitty Brewnless, Mr. Sidney Clifford, Mr. T. Yates, Mr. H. Dunkley, Miss Beatrice Hill, Miss Evelyn Ray, Mr. Charles Leverton, Mr. Arthur Fisher, Miss Ella Scott, and Miss Carrie Rettur.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—P., The St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. McLeod Loader; A. M., Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—This week: Mr. Francis Laidler's pantomimic play, "The Pride of Byzantia." The cast includes: Mr. J. Marsden, Mr. Reg. Matthews, Mr. A. White, Mr. Jas. Chippendale, Mr. Cliff Inman, Miss L. Murray, Miss Madge Sutter, Miss J. Sern, Little E. Pennell and Little Mary O'Hara, Miss E. Coles, and Miss Dorothy Vere.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Barrasford, Sley and Willmot; A. M., Mr. Leo Weisker.—This week: "The Great Arvi Mystery"; the Haydon Quartette; Bert Lemm; Chas Gould; Bros. St. John; La Clifforde and Rag-time B'boys; Belle and Austin, in sketch; and Davis and Deane.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Wm. Revill.—This week: Messrs. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath's company in "Our Miss Gibbs." The company includes: Mr. Sinclair Holder, Mr. Collins Rolfe, Mr. Wilfred Norman, Mr. Benson North, Mr. Leslie Winter, Mr. Noel Spencer, Mr. L. Edwards, Mr. Chris Wren, Miss Kitty Hyde, Miss Mona Glynn, Miss Aubrey Ashton, Miss Beatrice St. Vincent, Miss Carmen Woods, Miss Dolly Stacey, Miss Ida Lorraine, Mr. S. Cuthbert, Miss May Casson, Miss Violet Tremayne, and Miss Florence Ray.

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. John Batty; M., Mr. Walter Batty.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Chas. Locke presents "Bonnie Mary." The company includes: Mr. George Lyttleton-Holyoake, Mr. George Dudley, Mr. John Cullen, Mr. Ernest J. Fare, Mr. Victor T. Raymond, Mr. Wallè Spinner, Mr. Charles Myers, Mr. Tom Senior, Mr. William Grant, Mr. Frank Preston, Miss Leah Marlborough, Miss Lissa Young, Miss Alice Morrow, and Miss Beatrice Malvern. T. M., Mr. Wallè Spinner. Next week: "The Indian Scout."

HIPPODROME.—L. & G. M., Mr. Harry Burns; R. M., Mr. G. V. Stainton; Mus. D., Mr. Charles Haase.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance's company, in "A Waltz Dream." Touring-Manager, Mr. Victor Forsythe. The company includes: Mr. J. Noel Leyland, Mr. Fred Lyne, Mr. Geo. F. Burdett; Mr. John R. Val, Mr. Richard Keith, Mr. H. E. Neville, Mr. H. V. Diamond, Mr. Reginald P. Rutter, Miss Mabel Graham, Miss Marion Broom, Miss Rene Glynn, Miss Barbara Lea, Miss Daisy Yule, Miss Nellie Palmer, Miss Mabel St. Clair, Miss Mavis Shaw, Alice Morrow, and Miss Beatrice Malvern. T. M., Mr. Wallie Spinner. Next week: "The Indian Scout."

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; M., Mr. William Berson.—This week: Joe Collins' pantomime, "Red Riding Hood." The company includes: The Misses Kittie Douglas, Dora Burney, Connie Hazledene, Y. Bettes; Messrs. Bernard and Weston, Bert Eden, Jack Edmonds, Harry Merrylees. Specialities by Collins' Marvels.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—L., Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—This week sees C. Adolf Seebold's pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Miss Gracie Rosslyn, Miss Olive Desmond, Miss Rosa Charles, Miss Vesta Brownie, Miss Elaine Rosslyn, Miss Sylvia Rosslyn, Miss May Portsmouth, Miss Freda Butler, Mr. Harry Walsh, Mr. Fred Walker, Mr. Dai Griffiths, Mr. Geo. Ritchie, Mr. Geo. Collins, Mr. Sam Moore, and Mr. Harry Phillips; Victor's Six Fireflies, Collins and Moore, the Three Comedy Chanters, Nelson and Broughton, and Gracie Rosslyn.

KING'S HALL.—P., Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. Harry J. Wharton. — This week: Fred Grinnett's company in "Dick Turpin's Ride to York." The company includes: Mr. Bert Harrington, Mr. Frank Jennings, Mr. E. Jennings, Mr. Alf. Burgess, Miss M. Sanger, and Mr. Victor; Edie and Madge, tiny entertainers at the piano; Silent Tait and Amie, in pantomimical novelty act; and pictures.

SUNDERLAND.

KING'S THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. S. F. Davidson; G. M., Mr. Lloyd Townrow; T., Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—Mr. S. F. Davidson's pantomime, "Cinderella," entered upon the last week of its run at this house on Monday night after a tremendously successful session. Without exception, the principals have left an impression which will last. Mr. Johnnie Osborne as the Baron, Mr. Paddy Dupres as the Dame, and Mr. Harry Rogerson as Choddles, the page, with their quaint humour and individual application, Miss Nell Emerald as Dandini with her cheerful and breezy manner, Miss Ouida Macdermott as the Prince with her charming personality in song, Miss Violet Russell as Cinderella, with her sweet and winning manner and graceful dancing; Miss Jennie Hackett and Miss Dorothy L. Townrow with their highly amusing interpretation of the spiteful sisters; and Miss Mamie Hainsworth with her cultured vocalism as the Fairy Queen, all well deserve their great popularity with the local public. Mlle. Chiffon and the Martelli Troupe of dancers must also be included in the list for their graceful and intrepid displays.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; B. M., Mr. Chas. Boulton.—Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's play, "The Prairie Outlaw," is being presented here by a strong company. Miss Madge Douglas is the leading lady, and gives an excellent rendering of Monita. Mr. Robert Gilroy gives a masterly performance as Bob Middleton; Mr. Clark Wallace is capital as Rube Thompson; and Mr. Tom Croudace does good work as Great Hawk. Mr. Ernest Vaughan as Jos. Hawkins proves himself an able exponent of villainy; while the humour is ably represented by Messrs. J. Russell Bogue (Happy Happy) and Sam Jones (Black Pete).

PALACE THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. A. G. Hamilton.—A daring motor display is being given here this week by Darracq with huge success; John and Lilian Grand give a pleasing vocal item, "At Home and Abroad"; and Saltley and Nibs are highly popular in an amusing acrobatic act.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden.—Mr. Harry Burns' company is playing here this week in the pantomime, "The Forty Thieves," to large audiences. The scenery and dresses are handsome, and the cast is a strong one. Mr. Jim Bond is irresistibly funny as Ali Baba, and is rendered invaluable assistance by Mr. Edwin Garth as his wife. Mr. Philip Renonze (a Persian financier). Mr. Bobby Walker (Corporal), and Mr. Reuben Kitchen (Iphraim, a donkey) are also the source of endless amusement. Miss Mona Vivian scores heavily as Morgiana, with her winsome manner and finished vocalism; Miss Olive Plant creates quite the right impression with her bright and vivacious presentation of Ali Baba's son; as the "captain" of the gang, Miss Minnie D'Aubyn is dashing and vivacious; Miss Winnie Barr as Kara is to the fore with some distinctly clever Highland dances and songs. Work of a high order also comes from Miss Muriel Santon (the Fairy), Miss Mabel Fenwick (Spirit of Avarice), and the Four Fedoras, in a dancing display.

SWANSEA.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. William Coutts; G. M., Mr. Hal Cummings; A. M., Mr. C. McNamara. — This week (once nightly): "A Thief in the Night." The company includes: Mr. R. Watson, Mr. Ellis Leigh, Mr. Norman B. Cannon, Mr. Hugh Wallace, Mr. Francis James, Mr. Johnnie Leoni, Mr. Algie Spalding, Mr. Henry Stanton, Mr. Arthur Moran, Mr. Bert Hedger, Mr. Philip Crossley, Miss Irene Chalmers, Miss Elizabeth Watkins, Miss Josephine Colona, Miss Hettie Graham, Miss Kathleen Arding, and Miss May Byron. A. M., Mr. Charles McNamara. Next week: "Sins of the Rich."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. G. H. Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): Bella and Bijou, society entertainers; J. W. Rowley, comedian; Marie Kay, comedienne and dancer; Vernon Troupe, xylophone experts; Bert Weston, comedian; Shirley and Ransome, in "Episodes of Cockney Life"; La Belle Alva, in "The Gipsy Girl"; Friend and Downing, comedy couple; and pictures.

SWINDON.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Alfred Manners; Mus. D., Mr. E. H. Forman.—This week: Mr. J. F. Elliston's pantomime, "Jack and Jill," for two weeks The company includes: Miss Lily Loonhard, Miss Indiana Lindsay, Mr. Arthur Anarto, Miss Gertrude Corneille, Miss Phyllis Melville, Miss Rita Maie, Miss Edna Lyall, Mr. Graham King, Mr. Lawrence Anarto, Mr. Austin Jerome, Miss Irene Armitage, Miss Eva Raynard, Miss Doris Raynard, and Mr. Syd Lester. The specialities include: The Three Buckleys, and Jos. Collins' Sextette of Dancers; Mus. D., Mr. Fred R. Wyatt.

TONYPANDY.

NEW HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Will Stone; G. M., Mr. Edgar Harper.—This week: Lowenwirth and Cohan, Hebrew comedians; Hill and Ackerman, acrobatic comedians; Devon and Earle, novelty dancers; Loates and Stockwell, vaudeville entertainers; Roselle, mystic; George Goldburn, concertinist; Carl Otto, juggler; and pictures.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M. D., Mr. W. H. Mortimer; S., Mr. Arthur Pearse.—The Torquay Amateur Operatic Society is this week presenting "The Princess of Kensington" for the first time in Torquay. Next week Mr. Forbes Robertson in repertoire pays a short visit, to be followed by "Bunty Pulls the Strings."

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M., Mr. Courtney Crocker.—Owing to the great success last week La Belle Duchesse, with her performing dogs and horses, is reappearing here this week, whilst Palette also provides an interesting turn.

THE PAVILION.—P., The Torquay Town Council; M., Mr. Austin M. Wilshere.—The vocalists this week are Miss Winifred Lewis (contralto) and Mr. Frank Mullings (tenor). The municipal orchestra, under Mr. Basil Hindenberg, is performing, as usual.

TREHERBERT.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. C. W. Poole; R. M., Mr. W. A. Totten.—This week (twice nightly): J. W. Cordiner and Harry Richardson present "The Colombo Girl." The company includes: Messrs. Charles Tolcher, Leonard Mentz, Charles Dawe, Finn Doyle, and Arthur Lonville; the Misses Jessie Thompson, Gertrude De Lacy, Nellie Harcourt, May Warden, Iris Grant, Mabel Fields, Minnie Linscott, Gladys Marshall, Dulcie O'Neil, Adeline Wilberforce, Maud Murray, Edith Ridley, Nellie Burns, and Annie Baker. Matinée, Tuesday, at 11 a.m.

TREORCHY.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. Jones Bros.; R. M., Mr. Reg. Mothersill.—This week (twice nightly): Jenkins Brothers, comedy acrobats; Belford and Mars, vocal comedy duo; J. W. Rooke, comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Tuesday, 11 a.m.

WAKEFIELD.

OPERA HOUSE.—This week: Messrs. Polini and Melford present "The Silver King." The company includes: Mr. Arthur H. Rooke, Miss Roberta Pulleyne, Mr. Alfred Terris, Little Dolly Douglass, Mr. H. Elliott-Ball, Mr. Arthur Wright, Mr. Raymond Le Caudby, Mr. Fred May, Mr. Leslie Ellis, Mr. Stanley Terran, Mr. L. Ettway, Mr. J. Falkener, Messrs. A. Fry and F. Rodgers, Messrs. N. Pilsener and A. Baxter, Mr. P. Abutt, Mr. F. Allwood, Mr. Henry Littlejohn, Master Rodney, Mr. J. O. Smith, Mr. E. Fishor, Mr. I. V. Harte, Miss Margaret Cloud, Miss Fanny Binstead, Miss Edith Benson, Miss Ellen Foster, and Miss Marguerite Winton. T. M., Mr. G. M. Polini.

EMPIRE.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. M. Montgomery and E. C. Jazon present "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Annie Reeve, Mr. Will Cameo, Mr. William Miller, Mr. Fred Ward, Goodall and Knox, Mr. George Belrose, Miss Nellie Lewis, Miss M. De Velin, Miss Mollie Sayers, Mr. Will Penn, Miss Kitty Pearce, Miss Amy Gordon, Miss Ethel Barton, and Miss Selina Swift. B. M., Mr. John C. Jazon. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Sydney Tolfree; A. M., Mr. Harry Heath. — This week (twice nightly): Arthur Slater, the whistling man in white; Fred Allsopp and Florrie Beckwith, comedy artistes; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.45.

GRAND ELECTRIC.—R. M., Mr. H. Dunnill. This week (twice nightly): Clara Bernarde, versatile soprano comedienne; Farrow and Fiske, comedy duo; and pictures. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Joint M., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; S. & M., Mr. W. H. Westwood. — Her Majesty's Repertory Co. are this week giving "The Great Awakening," with Mr. Frank Lyndon as producer. The company includes: Mr. Ashley-Page, Mr. W. Haughton Macaulay, Mr. Will Percy, Mr. Augustine Bowerman, Mr. Jack Harrell, Miss Isla Garnett-Vayne, Miss Madge Trevelyan, Miss Kathleen Eckart, and Miss Patricia Connaughton.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—P., Sir Joseph Beecham; G. M., Mr. A. M. Loader; A. M., Mr. H. L. Warburton.—Mr. Gar Kiddie's company is here this week with "Mother Goose." The company includes: Miss Blanche Marion, Miss Dorothy Dare, Miss Brenda White, Miss Anna Rutland, Mr. Arthur Carlton, Mr. Bert Bex, Karr and Kooney, Langford and Hughes, Mr. Bert D'Arcy, the Three Merry Wags. Mr. G. Gerrard Sinclair is the musical-director.

HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. A. W. Turpin. This week: Lady Little; Graham and his human marionette; the Cavollotte Bros., instrumentalists; Frank and Beryl Hamer, comedy artistes; Little Connie Edmonde, vocalist; Bagolio; Hal Bryan, comedian; and pictures.

ROYAL.—P., The Central Theatres and Franco-British Animated Picture Co.; M. D., Mr. Wilberforce Turner; M., Mr. C. E. Bradley.—This week: The Royal Stock Co. in "The Life of An Actress."

WASHINGTON.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—P., Mr. Jack Emmerson; L., Messrs. the Elite Theatres Co.; M. D., Mr. Simpson; G. M., Mr. Taylor.—This week: The Fordyce Family, in acrobatic display; Owen King, entertainer; and the St. Georges, comedians and dancers; pictures complete.

GLOBE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—L., Mr. R. Routledge.—Mackintosh and Royal, comedians and dancers; and pictures.

WELLINGBOROUGH.

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. W. F. J. Hewitt; R. M., Mr. Joseph Baron.—This week (twice nightly): On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, the Three Sisters Eston, trapeze artistes; Dora Hawtrey, in chorus songs; Fred Shephard, comedian; the Len-Hard Trio, in "The Burglar's Surprise"; and pictures. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Travis Green's company in "Queen of the Redskins." The company includes: Walter Wilson, Caspar Middleton, Theodore Kelly, Fred W. Leonard, Allan Carruthers, Lionel Moore, Geo. Davis, Geo. Melford, May Laurence, Phœbe Brady; Gladys Osborne, Flora Leslie, and Laura Walker.

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA.

NEW PALACE.—P., Mr. Matt Raymond; R. M., Mr. Geo. H. Mortimer.—This week: Miss Alice Gill, Tyrolean vocalist; Harry Lawson, comedian; Daisy Hicks, comedienne; the Four Burnells, the crazy golfers; Henriette and Selina, musical act; the Six Puritan Maids, in vocal and instrumental scena; Tom Pearsom, solo whistler; Nita Crystal and Geoffrey Saville, in "Early Closing Night"; and Sharp's Five Tromboneers, in "The Officers' Quarters."

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. J. W. Seaward; Mus. D., Mr. G. D. Fox.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Fred. J. Little presents "Aladdin." The company includes: Mr. C. D. Reekie, Mr. Charles B. Hargrave, Mr. Leslie Digby, Messrs. Charlie and Will Boriski, Mr. Alf. Brookes, Miss Lillie Langtry, Miss Lillian de Venny, Miss Edie Anderson, Miss Lola Estelle, Miss Connie Moore, Miss M. Seymour, and Mr. Pat Nash. T. M., Mr. Frank Ayrton. Matinée, Saturday, at 2 p.m. Next week: "The Arcadians."

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Rich. Thornton; R. M., Mr. S. Thornton Smurthwaite; Mus. D., Mr. Horace Marshall.—A return to vaudeville is proving most acceptable, the artistes appearing this week including: James Dixon, baritone; Leslie Bros., eccentric musicians; Tom Parker, comedian and dancer; and Huley and Bent, comedy artistes. Pictures complete.

PALACE.—L., Mr. W. G. Alderson; M., Mr. W. Capner; Mus. D., Mr. S. Grahame.—This week: Sumikio, mimic; and the Albert Brothers, comedians; and pictures.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—M., Mr. W. Payne.—This week: Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, in "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Miss Elsie Allen, Miss Jean Aliistone, Miss Louie Denby, Miss Gladys Allen, Miss Julia Williams, Miss Ruth Varnia, Mr. Teddy Carlton, Mr. E. Harvey White, Mr. Cyril Chambers, Mr. Harry Benet, Mr. Dennis Lyndon, Mr. Leon Dubois, and Mr. David Keir.

PALACE OF VARIETIES. — P., Mr. Albany Ward; M., Mr. F. Adderley.—This week: Four Kings, juvenile vocalists and dancers; Field and Mansell, lightning art painters and eccentric jugglers; Henri Foden, balancing act; and pictures.

WEST STANLEY.

ALBERT HALL.—L., Mr. Randall Williams; R. M., Mr. G. E. Routledge.—This week: Les Jokos, conjurers; and pictures.

WHITEHAVEN.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Will Gibson; Mus. C., Mr. Fred Merryman.—This week: Mr. Walter Howard's company in "The Lifeguardsman." The cast includes: Mr. E. Cox, Mr. C. Whitlock, Mr. L. Bute, Mr. M. Wakeman, Mr. M. Chiswell. Mr. J. G. Maine, Mr. G. Lawrence, Miss F. Williams, Miss E. Gerrard, Miss E. Garnham, and Miss Miriam Pritchett.

PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Victor Branford; A. M., Mr. W.

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FILM GOSSIP.

"The Lost Inheritance."

An exciting and excellently acted picture is "The lost inheritance," the story of a stern father and an athletic son, released by the Selig Polyscope Co. on Feb. 6. Jack Roland, a rich young society man, is secretly engaged to Mollie Bawn, a wealthy and desirable young lady. A money-seeking, mischief-making individual, Duke D'Orsey, observes a clandestine meeting between the young people and decides to use the knowledge for his own preferment, as he happens to have the confidence of Mollie's parents. Jack Roland, a college athlete, cannot forgo the pleasure of knocking out a "Rough-Neck" in a three-round bout at his club. The event, however, is distorted and used by the Duke to influence Mrs. Bawn against Jack and to win the girl in spite of him. The scheming Duke carries this into other quarters, and gets Jack's father to disinherit him for participating in a professional bout. Eventually the real facts become known, the lovers are reunited, their engagement is announced, and the scheming Duke, who turns out to be a noted London crook, is dismissed from the scene in disgrace. 988ft.

"A Trip Round a Colliery at Lens, France."

Released by Pathé Frères on Feb. 5, this film which depicts the working of a coal mine, should prove of the greatest interest in view of the recent coal strikes. It gives an excellent idea, not only of the conditions under which the men work, but also of the wonderful labour-saving machinery used in dealing with the coal from the time it is hewn out until it is finally loaded into the waiting coal-trucks. We are first shown the huge dynamos which supply the power, then we get a view of the cages which convey the workmen underground. Descending to the "floor" of the mine, we see the trucks loaded with coal on their way to the "hoist," which carries the coal to the surface, and, arrived there, the coal is screened—a most important process—from which it emerges to be finally loaded into the trucks in readiness to start upon their journey, which ends in the coal merchant's yard. 525ft.

"The Tireless Trombonist."

A very funny film, capitally acted, is "The tireless trombonist," released by the Gaumont Co. on Feb. 9. Max Orpheus, solo trombone of the Grand Theatre, has to overcome the objections of an obdurate lawyer to him as a suitable fiancé to his daughter Kiki. But the apple of Max's eye has read of a strange bequest in a journal which leaves £5,000 to the first musician who can play "The maiden's prayer" for twenty-four hours without stopping. No one has yet succeeded, and in two days the alloted time expires. Kiki therefore hastens to inform her dear Max, who immediately obtains the services of the lawyer as a legal witness, and commences to trombone benignly. The effect of the dulcet strains is most soothing upon the neighbours—at first. What twenty-fours hours of continuous tromboning can produce, however, can be imagined. More than once Max, with protuding eye and distended cheek, is at the last gasp. But love and Kiki support his failing strength until twenty-three hours and fifty-nine minutes have elapsed, at which point the neighbours gather together in a body and rush in with murderous intentions. The lawyer wakes from the stupor which the soloist's unending blast has brought about, and when it is known that Max, limply hanging about Kiki's neck, has won the £5,000, the applause is deafening. 800ft.

Limerick Electric Picture Palace.

The principal attraction this week is the fine pictorial dramatic film entitled "The massacre," with the ever-popular Pathé's Gazette of current events. The clever marionette mimic, Speller, direct from London, makes a decided hit in his dialogues and his impersonation of well-known variety artistes. The music supplied by Miss Mai O'Connor is ever appropriate, and Mr. W. J. Potts gets off the spools without a single hitch.

Presentation to a Cinema Manager.

After the performance on Saturday night last, at the Cardiff Cinema Theatre, Mr. Frank Ridge, late deputy-manager of the theatre, who has been appointed manager of the Canton Cinema Theatre, shortly to be opened, was presented with a handsome marble clock. Major J. McDonald, the general-manager, made the presentation, which was, he said, a token of the sincere esteem and respect in which Mr. Ridge was held by himself and the entire staff of the Cardiff Cinema. He wished Mr. Ridge all the success he deserves in his new sphere. Mr. Ridge suitably returned thanks.

"Unique Studies of Nature."

Series three of the remarkable nature studies released by Kineto, Ltd., on Feb. 6 includes splendid photographs of waterfowl, dromedaries, monkeys, and lions, and also includes some extraordinary pictures showing the birth of an ostrich, the egg having been hatched by incubator. The lion cubs rolling in the long jungle grass are seen, the markings on their heads and coats being well shown. An enormous number of monkeys are seen under rather unusual circumstances. They all inhabit one cage, and are struggling among one another for positions on the front bars. The birth of an ostrich first shows the eggs being examined through a powerful magnifying glass. Several are placed in the incubator, being insufficiently hatched, but one is dealt with by the operator in full view of the camera. A hammer and nail are used to open the shell, and the beak and eye of the bird are first seen. Gradually the bird emerges as the shell is broken, and eventually it sits among the ruins of its former residence gasping with obvious curiosity and surprise. 380ft.

Mr. Huzzard's New Appointment.

On Monday night last Mr. W. D. Huzzard, late of the Empire, Whitley Bay, was appointed manager at the new Empire at Low Spennymoor for the Durham County Picture Hall Company. Mr. Huzzard has a wide experience of the picture world in the United States of America, having been engaged in that business across the pond for some years.

New Electric Theatre, Dundee.

Mr. Arthur Howard's bill of fare includes the pantomime picture, "The Babes in the Wood," a beautifully coloured film which proves very popular. "My baby" unfolds the story of an angry father, who, in later years, is reconciled through the innocent intervention of a sleeping child. A hueband's smart ruse is the theme of a capital film, entitled "Her burglar." Other fine pictures screened are "Water rats," "Like the cat," "They come back," and the ever-popular Gaumont Gazette.

"Kinemacolor" Zoological Revue.

On Monday next Mr. Charles Urban will make a complete change in the "Kinemacolor" at the Scala Theatre, pride of place in the new bill being given to a full and comprehensive zoological revue to be called "Peeps into Nature." This delightful collection of animated scenes of the animal world, both in a state of freedom and captivity in all parts of the globe, has taken no less than three years in the making, and will accurately foreshadow the humane and intelligent reforms which, by the generosity of Mr. Mappin, are presently to be adopted at the famous Gardens in Regent's Park.

Informative glimpses of the hitherto unseen will range from the hatching of the eggs of the ostrich to the marvellous manœuvres of the otter in pursuit of trout—actually photographed under water. The series ranges from the sea lions of the Arctic to the reptiles and batrachians of the New World, to say nothing of the great beasts and big cats with which we are comparatively familiar. The new entertainment, which will include many topical and dramatic films, will be given twice daily.

Leicester Picture Theatres.

At the Leicester Picture House "Les Miserables" continues to attract splendid business at largely enhanced prices. It cannot be shown after Friday evening. Another fine picture this week is "The Woman in White," which is backed up by "Love's labour lost," "Rhodes," and "Willy and the pastrycook."—At the Floral Hall Picture Theatre, the detective drama, "Strength and cunning" (in two parts), "Kitty at boarding school," "Deauville" (coloured), "The Samaritan of Coogan's Tenements," "Petronilla's monkey," &c., are proving most attractive films.—At the Grand Electric Palace, "An Indian's friendship," "A fisherboy's faith" (Selig), "Her father's hat," "A society playwright," "The garrison triangle," and "The man within" are included in an excellent list here.

Sligo Picture Theatre.

The Sligo Picture Theatre—undoubtedly one of the finest places of entertainment in the West of Ireland—is commanding a large share of patronage. The astute proprietor, Mr. J. Kilgannon, provides his patrons with a series of the most up-to-date films, this week's programme comprising "The crisis," "Her last shot," "The mystery of the banker's safe," etc.

"Les Miserables" at Nottingham.

This magnificent film is proving a veritable gold mine to the Provincial Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd. Huge houses are attracted nightly, and the famous story, full of human interest, holds the audience entranced. During the day there is a pleasing variety of subjects, including an adaptation from Wilkie Collins' novel, "The Woman in White," "A fisherboy's faith," a charmingly romantic film, several nature studies, and a comedy film, "Willie and the pastrycook." On Saturday last a presentation was made to the manageress, Miss Leadbeater (who is returning to the Leeds Picture House), consisting of an address and a gold and pearl brooch, subscribed by members of the staff as an appreciation of her kindness and a token of their regard.

A Remarkable "Flying A."

Mr. Frank Newman showed some remarkable Nature studies of a "Wild fox catching wild rabbits" at the Flying A, American Film Co., Ltd., 101, Wardour-street, on Monday afternoon. First a number of young rabbits were seen disporting themselves in a dell. Then a fox sprang upon them and captured them one by one by very rapid darts and dashes. The film was not disgustingly cruel, as the deaths of the "bunnies" appeared to be instantaneous. The film took several months to plan and execute, as elaborate precautions were necessary to prevent the fox, a wild one photographed in his native haunts, from being startled by the "clicking" of the camera.

MUSIC HALL FAVOURITES.

MLLE. LUCRETIA.

That marvellous dancer and charming singer, Mlle. Lucretia, has been on the stage since she was five years old. She worked with her father and mother, Townsend and Josephine, for several years as leg mania speciality artistes. She also did a wire act when she was ten years old as the Beautiful Lucretia, but after some time she relinquished the wire walking, as she wished to indulge a fancy to appear as a burlesque artiste and speciality dancer. In this line she has worked nearly all the London and provincial halls, including the London Pavilion, the Tivoli, and the Oxford, and has fulfilled engagements on the Moss and Stoll tours. Lucretia has played in many pantomimes, including those at the Comedy, Manchester; Shakespeare, Liverpool; the Prince's, Bristol; and the Alexandra, Stoke Newington.

The late Mr. Harry Rickards saw her turn in London and specially engaged her for his theatres in Australia for 26 weeks, during which she played in Adelaide, Melbourne, and Sydney. Her success at the Tivoli Theatre, Sydney, caused her to stay at that house for 20 weeks without a break. Mr. Rickards then engaged her for several more months. She also played in New Zealand, including Auckland and Christchurch, Wellington and Dunedin. On her return to Australia Mr. Rickards wanted again to re-engage her, but business in England had to be attended to.

[Photo by Watts.

MLLE. LUCRETIA.

After being back in England a couple of years Lucretia took into partnership her only sister, Josephine, and they are now touring with great success in their own names, as burlesque artistes, harmonising duettists, and artistic dancers. The talented pair have played principal boy and girl and have some excellent bookings. Lucretia admits to a fondness for Australia and New Zealand, where she made many friends. She and her sister would like to have returned, but owing to their mother's death they intend to remain in the Old Country. After a while they have a fancy to take a cottage with plenty of ground, so that they can spend several weeks of the year there. Lucretia has been a great traveller, having worked with her father and mother in Germany, Russia, Holland, and many large Continental towns. She is an artiste in every sense of the word.

Eric Williams' Bioscope Stories.

A numerous and very appreciative audience assembled at the Majestic Theatre on Monday afternoon, when Mr. Eric Williams gave a special kinema recital matinée, and introduced two entirely new films, besides those of "The surgeon's child" and "A ballad of splendid silence," which have been so well received. The new ones were "Fra Giacomo," by Robert Buchanan, and "Hanging a Picture," an episode from Jerome K. Jerome's "Three Men in a Boat." In the former Mr. Eric Williams acts the part of the Count, and in the latter the always amusing Uncle Podger. When we say that he succeeded in both, we pay him an obviously high compliment. The pictures representing "Fra Giacomo," which was arranged in a prologue and four scenes, were really beautiful specimens of motion photography by the Searchlight Film Co., and the tragic romance was splendidly recited by Mr. Williams, the words synchronising absolutely with the motions of the actors on the screen. Uncle Podger hanging a picture was received with a roar from start to finish, and the whole entertainment afforded the greatest delight to all who were present. A word of praise is due to Mr. Wertheimer, who arranged and conducted the orchestral illustrative music.

Empire Projectors in Demand.

On Thursday last a new picture palace was opened at Dalton Brook, Yorkshire. The electrical contract was in the hand of Messrs. Knapton and Co. Empire projectors have been installed, and the opening date proved to be a successful event. Empire programmes are running at this hall.

The People's Picture House, Clerkenwell, was opened on Saturday last, a private exhibition being given on Friday night, when a well-selected programme was shown. Two Empire projectors have been installed, and the hall promises to be a very successful venture.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring-gardens, Lord Cheylesmore (Chairman) presiding.

EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES.

The Public Control Committee reported as follows:—"We held a special meeting on Jan. 17, when nineteen applications for new licences and sixteen applications for the renewal for the year 1913 of existing licences, together with five adjourned applications for new licences and fifteen adjourned applications for renewals were submitted to us. In one case an objection was made on behalf of the Council, but was withdrawn before the case came on for hearing. As the result of our consideration of the applications, we granted twenty-one new licences; while the application for a new licence was withdrawn, and the consideration of the remaining six applications stood adjourned.

"The Committee further reported that since Dec. 13 last one case has been reported in which an employment agency has been carried on without a licence. In this case the institution of legal proceedings has been authorised."

SCALA THEATRE ASSESSMENT.

A report was received from the Local Government, Records, and Museums Committee, as follows:—"We reported on Dec. 17-18, 1912, with reference to the assessment of the Scala Theatre, and the Council on that date decided to appeal to Quarter Sessions in the matter. In view of the complicated character of the case, we gave instructions that before the appeal was lodged the opinion of counsel should be obtained on the case. The effect of this opinion was that owing to technical difficulties it was doubtful whether the Council had a reasonable prospect of carrying the appeal to a successful issue, and in these circumstances we decided during the recess not to enter the appeal. The Committee accordingly recommended that the resolution of Dec. 18 be rescinded."

"A FALLEN IDOL."

The far-famed home of mystery in Langham place has had few more entertaining productions than that of "The Fallen Idol," a magical sketch, which that prolific writer, Mr. F. Anstey, has constructed out of his story of the same name. The piece, which was produced on Saturday, abounds in startling surprises, all accomplished with that skill and finish which characterise the work done under the supervision of Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant.

The ugly little idol from India, which causes such havoc in the studio of the young artist, Ronald Campion, is a present from his sweetheart, who has been sitting for her portrait, which he is painting in oils. The idol is quick to resent the slightest indignity, and when the young lady objects to having the image included in the picture, she is horrified to find that the artist, in putting the finishing touches to the face, has given his sweetheart the exact features of the idol. His endeavours to wipe out the picture are in vain, for a duster flies out of his hand, a piece of paper bursts into flames, and his palette knife turns into a scorpion writhing in his hand.

A solution of the mystery is offered by a theosophist friend of Campion's, who undertakes to call up the "astral spirit" of the idol. This only makes matters worse, for Tirthamkar, as he is called, insists, under threat of further mischief, on his idol being conveyed personally to India by Campion, and set up in the most magnificent temple that was ever built, considerately filling the cabinet with gold, in order to provide the wherewithal. In order to enforce his behest Tirthamkar not only turns Sybil into an old woman, but invests the artist's lay figure with life, and makes her claim to be Campion's wife. An attempt is made to smash the image, but it is protected by a man in armour, another lay figure of the studio, who advances with his pike. Finally, however, the theosophist professor comes to the rescue, and invokes the aid of his Mahatma from Thibet. That personage proves too powerful for the "astral spirit," and both he and his idol are made to evaporate before the eyes of the audience.

The above sketch contains only a mere reference to the ingenious illusions which follow upon each other with astonishing reality, and no attempt can be made to explain the way in which the idol, after clearing the top of the cabinet where it is placed of all the other figures on it causes the flowers on the table to spring up to his feet, and jumps of his own accord into the artist's arms, or how the idol, having been deposited out in the street, is seen walking back cheerfully into the room. Humorous lines are frequent in the piece, which created continuous merriment. Mr. Arthur Burne ably suggested the perturbation of the young artist, whose fiancée had a refined and ladylike exponent in Miss Winifred Beech, a young actress of excellent style and delivery. Mr. Charles Glenrose is again admirably suited as the "astral spirit," his sonorous voice being very effective. Great fun was made by Mr. Rutland Spencer as a manservant who wastes more time in grumbling about his work than it would take to do it, and by Mr. H. De Lange as the excitable theosophist. Mr. Percy Francis, Miss Thea Hansard, Miss Annie Hill, and Master Len Bethell all helped towards securing the success which was unmistakably scored.

The Gaiety Cinema (Leyton), Ltd., opened a new picture palace at Leyton this week. Mr. Cyril H. Enden has been appointed manager, and there is every indication that this theatre will be popular in the district. The installation was in the hands of Messrs. Butcher and Sons, Ltd., who installed two silent Empire projectors and complete electrical outfit.

Mr. Groves, of Royal Oak Hotel, Leominster, opened a picture palace in that town on Friday last. Programmes are supplied by the Empire Film Service, and the Silent Empire is installed.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 8.—Opera House.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne; Sub-Lessees, Messrs. E. Allen and Co.—On Monday night the Von Arx and Duncan company started a fortnight's season, and the house was packed. The bill of fare is well varied, and a change is made each night and at matinées.

Tivoli.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Harry Stodel.—Last night a packed house demonstrated the popularity of the Tivoli. Every turn was an excellent example of its kind. Miss Joyce Vernon is a winsome dancer, the Sisters Leslie in all their songs gained an ovation, Athlone and Sinclair gave a wonderful gymnastic turn, Billy Hobbs as a coon impersonator is rich in his jokes, and was hailed by old friends, and the Stavordale Quintette a clever combination that scores wherever they appear. The pictures are all first class.

Grand Theatre.—Another new programme last night. Miss Beatie Tomler as a character mimic is certainly the very best this city has had the pleasure of listening to. Miss Marian Scott, male impersonator, sang some catchy songs, and the pictures are well selected.

Paget's Mammoth Circus and Menagerie.—After an absence of two years we have had a visit for the Christmas holidays of this great combination. The programme is full of interest, and the proprietor has evidently spared neither time nor expense in providing a rich treat. He has been well rewarded by crowded houses. The menagerie now contains over one hundred specimens and a stud of forty-five horses. The feats of strength of Herr Paget and the daring exhibition of Mme. Paget among her pets (lions and tigers), as well as the interludes of the various artistes, make up the very best show that has ever toured the colony. The advance agent, Mr. Shaw-Walker, has not failed to enhance his reputation.

DURBAN, Jan. 5.—Hall-by-the-Sea.—Managing-Director, Mr. Edgar M. Hyman.—Three excellent double acts on this week's bill and a splendid picture programme has filled the hall nightly. The star attraction is Great and Good, wonderful acrobats. As comedy tumblers they have no rivals. The climax in comedy sketches is supplied by Helm and Cozens, in "The Doctor and the Patient," an act which created a scream throughout. Stirling and Love, in their musical sporting breeze, "A Brush Up," were successful, their turn being both clever and funny. The following star artistes are appearing this month: Madge Temple, La Pia, the Palace Girls, and the Surf Bathers.

Criterion Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. G. Tucker.—Lillie Soutter is topping the bill here this week, and the clever comedy artiste has packed the house throughout the week. A capital double turn is that of Williams and Warden, their patter creating hearty laughter. Lillie Kennion (soprano) sang two excellent songs, and was much admired. Mark Anton, Jess and Tony, Irene Shamrock, and Chas. F. Best are billed for next week.

Theatre Royal.—The Wheeler-Edwards Gaiety company continue to draw big crowds to the West-End theatre nightly. Their successful production this week is the first South African musical comedy, "The Girl from Springfontein."

JOHANNESBURG, Jan. 6.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.—Mr. H. B. Irving's season.—Crowded houses assemble each evening to see Mr. Irving and company in "The Lyons Mail." Mr. Irving, of course, plays the dual parts of Lesurques and Dubosc, and his thrilling performance keeps the audience in rantures. Mr. Irving is brilliantly supported by Henry Vibart (Jerome Lesurques), Tom Reynolds (Fouinard), Windham Guise (Choppard), Lewis Willoughby (Courriol), and others; and by Mesdames Vera Coburn (Julie), May Holland (Postmaster's niece), and Louie Regius (Jeanette). "The Lyons Mail" is preceded by "A Maid of Honour," a sketch dealing with Roundhead and Cavalier days. Mr. Vibart makes a powerful Cromwell, and Miss Vera Coburn a sweet and dainty Mistress Mary Cave.

Standard Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne.—"Under Two Flags" holds the boards for the present. Miss Freda Godfrey plays Cigarette very finely, and Mr. Malcolm Tearle is an ideal Bertie Cecil. Other parts are in the capable hands of Eva Moss, Mona O'Dowd, Dora Nazeby, and W. G. Court, H. C. Paine, Burton Seymour, and others.

Empire.—A fine company graces the Empire. General Ed. Le Vine, comedy juggling act; James Loft, comedian; Ella Moore, male coon impersonator; Manzana and La Mora, Cuban dancers; Mileri and Landino, Sicilian singers; Forest Tell, coon delineator; Marjorie Lawrence, comedienne and dancer; Reynard and Rosella, vocalists and instrumentalists; and Hymack, chameleon comedian.

Orpheum.—Manager, Mr. E. D. Martus.—Artistes last week were the Eight Moths, concert party; Della and Pley, vaudeville duo; Eadie and Ramsden, comedy duo.

Bijou.—Manager, Mr. E. R. Gourdeau.—Artistes last week were Cora Leslie, vocalist; Jack Vincent, tenor; and Arthur Litton, the human gramophone.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—"Referee," May 15, 1910.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—"Star."

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE GOD OF GOLD.

For release, Sunday, March 9. Approximate length, 1,016 ft.

A ONE-REEL FEATURE, ACTED BY AN ALL-STAR CAST.

THIS IS A SELIG SPECIAL THAT MUST HEAD YOUR PROGRAM. CALL AND SEE IT FOR YOURSELF.

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AN INTERESTING WEDDING.

In the annals of the arena and of the music halls, as well as in the records of great amusement enterprises, the name of Bostock is not only of historic significance, but is one highly honoured among entrepreneurs, as well as artistes. One can easily understand, therefore, the interest felt by those before and behind the footlights in the marriage on Monday at St. George's, Hanover-square, of Arthur Douglas Fairgrieve Bostock, third son of Edward Henry Bostock, the well-known music hall proprietor and owner of Bostock and Wombwell's travelling menagerie, and Miss Vi Selena Veevers, younger daughter of the late William Thomson Veevers and Mrs. Veevers, of Greenbat House, Alnwick. The bride, who looked exceedingly pretty, was escorted up the aisle by her brother, who gave her away. She was attended by two bridesmaids—Miss Edith Veevers (her sister) and Miss Lucy Constance Jackson Bostock (sister of the bridegroom). The best man was Mr. E. H. A. Bostock, the general-manager of the Bostock Tour. The Rev. Norman Thicknesse, rector of the parish, performed the ceremony, at the conclusion of which the happy couple received the congratulations of many friends. The bridegroom, who is generally known as Mr. Douglas Bostock, was formerly associated with the Paisley and Ipswich Hippodromes, and is at present in charge of Bostock and Wombwell's No. 1 Menagerie at the World's Fair, Islington.

After the ceremony the wedding breakfast and reception at the Langham Hotel was numerously attended, and later in the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Bostock left for Paris and the Continent, where the honeymoon will be spent. They were the recipients of many telegrams of congratulation and numerous beautiful presents. The list of gifts from relatives and friends includes:—Bridegroom to bride, diamond ring, leopard skin coat and furs; bride to bridegroom, heavy solid gold ring; Mr. E. H. Bostock, cheque; Mrs. E. H. Bostock, silver tea service; Mrs. Veevers, ermine furs and stole and satin quilt; Miss Edie Veevers, gold slave bangle; Mr. William Veevers, cheque; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Veevers, silver egg stand; Mr. Gus Bostock, silver biscuit box and case of silver spoons; Mr. Gordie Bostock, afternoon tea knives and case of silver spoons; Mr. Jack Bostock, set of fish knives and forks; Miss Hilda Bostock, silver sugar sifter; Miss Lucy Bostock, silver serviette rings; Miss Francis Bostock, silver marmalade jar; Mr. and Mrs. James W. Bostock, two entree dishes; Mrs. F. C. Bostock and family, massive solid silver fruit bowl; American cousins, silver syphon stand; Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Fitt, silver mustard, pepper, and salt pot; Miss Doris Fitt, silver cake basket; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bostock, solid silver tea caddy; Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Birkett, case of silver salt cellars and spoons; Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Cross, silver and Bavarian china afternoon tea service; Mr. and Mrs. James Walmsley, case of carvers; Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Read, silver hot-water service dish; Mr. and Mrs. F. Wombwell, case of silver serviette rings; Mr. and Mrs. James Young (Paisley), solid silver strawberry service; Mr. and Mrs. S. Young (Paisley), silver candlesticks; Mr. and Mrs. F. Coutts (Paisley), gentleman's dressing case; Mr. and Mrs. J. Creher (Plymouth), silver ink stand; Mr. and Mrs. W. Dalglish (Glasgow), silver tray; Mr. and Mrs. T. Parkington (Ipswich), Sheraton eight-day clock; Mr. and Mrs. H. Tudor (Sheffield), case of cutlery; Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Gribben (Paisley), oak biscuit barrel; Mr. W. F. Frame (Glasgow), silver bread plate; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Irvine (Paisley), silver photo frames; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Clapham (Thornaby), silver flower vase; Mr. and Mrs. F. Panter (Ipswich), silver photo frames; Messrs. de Frece and Edelsten (London), silver secretaire set; Mr. and Mrs. R. Fossett, sen., satin eiderdown quilt; Miss Cissie Gray (Norham-on-Tweed), pair of towel shams; Mr. Percy W. B. Tippetts (London), afternoon silver tea spoons and tongs; Mr. and Miss Spittle (Alnwick), silver calendar; Mr. Page Hunt (Eye), case of silver fish knives and forks; Mr. H. Pinchon (Ipswich), silver flower vases; Nurse Rutherford (Alnwick), hand-wrought old Japanese table-centre; Miss Jennie Stevenson (Gosforth), silver buttonhook and shoe horn; Staff of the Bostock and Wombwell's Royal No. 1 Menagerie, silver fish carvers; Staff of the Norwich Hippodrome, large silver flower vase; Staff of the Paisley Hippodrome, case of silver-mounted horn carvers; Staff of the Ipswich Hippodrome, carriage clock; Staffs of the Hamilton Hippodrome, Victoria Hall, Hamilton; Pavilion, Wishaw; and Picture House, Blantyre, cabinet of silver cutlery, dinner and tea service, comprising 120 pieces.

DUMB FRIENDS' LEAGUE MATINEE.

The matinée at the Victoria Palace on Thursday, in aid of Our Dumb Friends' League, succeeded beyond expectations. There was a crowded house, and the entertainment was an excellent one. The novelty of the afternoon was a piece in one act by Neil F. Grant, entitled

"POLICY 1313."

Annie Lipp .....Miss Madge McIntosh.
Susan Hobson .....Miss Frances Vine
Timothy Lipp .....Mr. John Deverell
Will Blazes .....Mr. Athol Stewart

This clever little piece proved distinctly amusing. Its idea is excellent. Mrs. Lipp, the wife of a general dealer at Walthamstow, has over-insured her furniture and household property against burglary. She has a husband who is an open-air preacher, and he, in one of his discourses, has disclosed the fact of the over-insurance to an eccentric burglar, who first "pinches" Mrs. Lipp's clock and a toast rack, and then pretends repentance and offers to restore the "swag." The insurance company pays the claim of £20, and the preacher and the penitent cracksman enter. There is an amusing discussion, and it is finally settled to divide the cash amongst the husband, the wife, and the thief. Mr. Athol Stewart was intensely comic as the humorous burglar, Mr. John Deverell played the open air preacher very cleverly, and Miss Florence Frances Vine as Susan, and Miss Madge McIntosh as Mrs. Lipp gave two capital realistical character sketches of "low life."

In the variety entertainment Mr. Gus Elen was loudly applauded, especially for his admirable rendering of his new song, "My old dog, Charlie." Miss Ray Wallace gave some effective imitations, Mr. Henry Russon recited Kipling's "Gunga Din" very vigorously, Miss Floyd Ariston's rag-time melodies were smart and spirited, Miss Mary Law played the violin, and Mr. Bert Errol's songs were well received. Mr. W. W. Jacobs and Mr. Louis Parker's gruesome but thrilling playlet, "The Monkey's Paw," was played in the most earnest, impressive, and graphic style by Mr. John Lawson and company, and some pretty ladies, organised by Miss Phyllis Broughton, acted as programme-sellers. Others whose names were on the programme were Miss Muriel Trevor and her Merry Sparks, Mr. Cliff Ryland and Master Sydney, Miss Marie Blythe, Mr. Arthur Wood, the Romps, Miss Minnie Leslie, Little Betty Balfour, Mr. Herbert Rule, Mr. Harry Russon, Mme. Alice Esty Rinaldo, Mr. Alfred de Grey, the Bartle Quartette, Miss Beth Tate, Miss Marion Edwards, Miss Elfie Fay, Messrs. Hedges Bros. and Jacobsen, Mr. Alfred H. West, Mr. Tom Edwardes, Miss Lottie Venne, and the Four Huzza Girls.

Telephone Call Office.—For the convenience of advertisers and members of the amusement professions, a public telephone call office is installed at "The Era" offices, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

New Patents.

This list is specially compiled for "The Era" by Messrs. Rayner and Co., registered patent agents, of 37, Chancery-lane, London, from whom all information relating to patents, designs, trade marks, &c., can be obtained gratuitously.

LATEST PATENT APPLICATIONS.

1,601.—Richard Philip Nyers and John Donaldson Gillespie. Advertisement signs and the like illuminated by gas. Jan. 20, 1913.

1,763.—Victor Ernest Joyce. Tickets and ticket punching or stamping, recording, and delivering apparatus. Jan. 22, 1913.

1,878.—Edward Thomas Middlemiss. Check-issuing machines. Jan. 23, 1913.

2,032.—James Richard Trigwell. Amusement devices. Jan. 25, 1913.

2,087.—George Livingstone Richards. Coin-freed or actuated vending machines. Jan. 25, 1913.

SPECIFICATIONS PUBLISHED THIS WEEK.

1,169.—Craan. Scenic mountain and like railways and passenger cars used in connection therewith.

10,229.—Bell. Mechanical toys.

21,856.—Spetter. Ball-game apparatus.

LATEST PUBLISHED ABSTRACT.

"Target Disks." (22,086.)

A THEATRE EMERGENCY SWITCH.

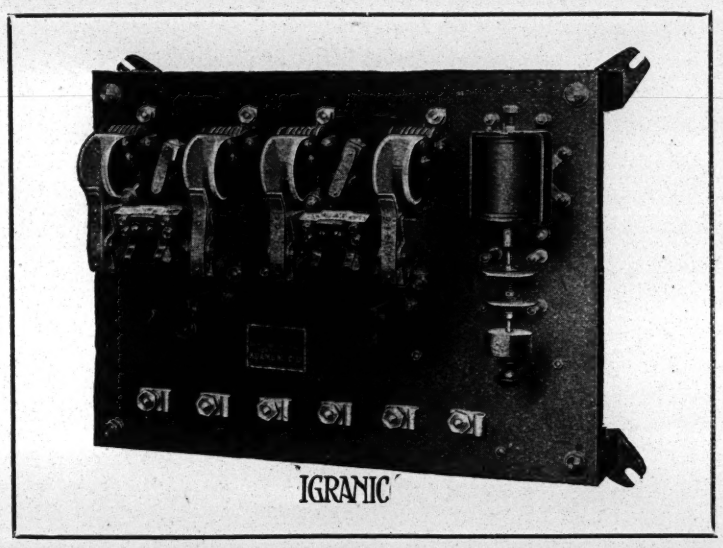
Although a panic in a British theatre is a matter of exceedingly rare occurrence, every proprietor knows that this is because the greatest care is taken to foresee and provide against all possible sources of accident.

A notable addition to the safety devices already used in theatres is the "Adams Igranic" Theatre Emergency Switch, patented and made by the Adams Manufacturing Company, Ltd., of Bedford (so well known as the makers of the "Adams Igranic" Theatre Dimmers), which is designed to secure continuity of electric lighting when the ordinary electric current supply fails.

If the lights in a crowded theatre suddenly go out a panic may ensue. In such cases it is not sufficient to provide an emergency supply to be switched on by hand. Human action is not quick enough. The occurrence is so startling and unexpected. Nobody is prepared and nobody knows what to do or where to find the switch.

The "Adams Igranic" Theatre Emergency Changeover Switch is ever on the alert and is practically instantaneous in action. About two-fifths of a second is the time it takes to change over. Consequently it restores the supply almost before anybody has noticed its interruption.

This switch can be supplied for use with either



continuous current circuits or alternating current circuits of a frequency not exceeding 60 cycles.

The illustration represents a continuous current outfit, and consists essentially of two magnetically operated main switches controlled by a magnetic relay. This is intended for use where both the supply systems are direct current of the same voltage. Where required, however, change-over switches are supplied to change over from alternating current to direct current, or vice versa. In a typical case the ordinary supply is alternating current 220 volts, 50 cycles, and the emergency supply direct current 480 volts. Necessarily this is a more elaborate and expensive outfit that the one illustrated, owing to the necessity of including in it provision to make the use of the direct current supply applicable to the alternating current installation.

Full particulars can be obtained from the Adams Manufacturing Co., Ltd., either at Bedford or Balfour House, Finsbury Pavement, London, E.C., if leaflet No. ER 76 is asked for.

Mr. Fred Bruce and Miss Dorothy Maurice have most successfully produced a charming fantasy entitled "The Artist and the Columbine," which has been immediately secured by Mr. Fred Baugh.

Mr. J. W. North, manager of the Palace, Doncaster, was at the fall of the curtain on Wednesday evening (22nd) presented with a handsome silver tea service as a testimony of the high esteem in which he is held by the joint staffs of the Palace and Grand Theatres. Mr. Felix Burns, musical-director of the Palace, made the presentation, after which came graceful tributes of appreciation by Mr. C. H. Bell, Mr. R. D. Grahame, and Mr. W. H. Borrill. In responding, Mr. North, who was enthusiastically greeted, made a happy speech.

At the Savoy, Glasgow, on Monday, during the evening, the manager, Mr. H. Godwin, introduced the popular lessee, Miss Lillie Williams, who had been billed as "She," to the audience, and Miss Williams, in a neat and appropriate little speech, assured her patrons that she would do all in her power to keep the Savoy ahead of the times in securing first-class talent, and thus gain their appreciation as a successful music hall lessee.

Just before the conclusion of the second performance in the Sheffield Hippodrome on Saturday night a young woman was taken ill in the circle. She was conveyed to an ante-room, where she gave birth to a child. A doctor was on the premises, and after receiving attention the mother and child were conveyed to the Jessop Hospital in an ambulance. A woman spectator in the gallery of the Hippodrome gave birth to a child on Oct. 16, 1908.

Another film record was created last Tuesday at the Coliseum by the production in the actual colours of the Nice Carnival, which was held last Sunday. This was brought about by Gaumont's new process, the "Chrono-Chrome," and it is all the more remarkable from the fact that this coloured film arrived before the ordinary black representation, and that up to the present the Carnival has not been reproduced in colours within three weeks after the event.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

(COPYRIGHT.)

Fairs, Feasts, and Wakes in England, Scotland, and Wales for February.

England.

1 Blidworth (1,117)
1 Lichfield (8,617)
1 Longton (37,481)
1 Ordsall Lane (Salford)
5 Kineton (1,000)
8 Nantwich (7,816)
13 Beaconsfield (2,511)
13 Harrogate (33,706)
14 Biggleswade (5,375)
14 Dorchester (9,842)
14 King's Lynn (21,140)
24 Frome (10,901)
28 Downham (2,407)
28 Heywood (26,698)

Scotland.

7 Dunbar (3,500)
7 Haddington (3,796)

Wales.

3 Maesteg (24,977)

Private Bills, Session 1913.

The Guild Parliamentary Solicitor, in his report to the Executive Council of the Showmen's Guild, says: "I have now completed my examination of the Bills deposited for the current year, and I send you herewith extracts from the Aberystwith Corporation, Barry Urban District Council, Derby Corporation, Mynyddislwyn Urban District Council, Southgate Urban District Council, Southport Corporation, and West Bromwich Corporation Bills.

"I have included four clauses from the Aberystwith Bill, but the important one is the last (Clause 39), which is the usual objectionable provision prohibiting any market or fair within a radius of four miles. The other three clauses probably do not affect showmen, but I send them so that you may see the general scheme of the Bill.

"The above remark applies also to the clauses from the Barry Bill, some only of which directly affect showmen, but all being part of one scheme. You will observe that Clause 95 of the Southport Bill and Clause 131 of the West Bromwich Bill are the same. I do not think, myself, that they can possibly have any injurious effect upon the show business; but as they are somewhat on the lines of the Bill of last year, on which it was thought necessary to take action, I send them to be on the safe side.—Yours faithfully,

"FREDERICK MILLAR,
"Parliamentary Agent."

Monopoly of Fairs and Markets.

The Corporation of Aberystwith claims, by Clause 39 in their Bill, to prohibit markets and fairs in the neighbourhood of the borough. It is almost identical in terms with similar clauses in the Luton Corporation Bill of 1911, and the Tavistock District Council Bill of 1912, and reads as follows:—

"No authority, company, or person other than the Corporation shall, without the consent of the Corporation, hold any market or fair in the district, or within a radius of four miles from the town clock in Aberystwith."

The committee determined, after consultation with Mr. Henry Studt (upon whose circuit of fairs Aberystwith comes), to open up negotiations with the Corporation and try to effect an amicable settlement before entering a petition against the Bill. The signal victory of the Guild two years ago in defeating a similar proposal in the Luton Bill, followed by a like success without an expensive appeal by counsel and witnesses last year, justifies the Guild Executive trying to effect a settlement without recourse to expensive litigation.

The committee left the earlier stages of the negotiations in the competent hands of Mr. Vice-President Henry Studt and the Guild chaplain.

Barry Dock, West Bromwich, and Southport Bills.

The committee, after careful consideration of the Parliamentary agent's report on the above Bills, were inclined to accept their agent's expert opinion, but in the interests of the Midland showpeople, it was decided that inquiries be made from the Town Clerk of West Bromwich, and to secure similar guarantees as those obtained last session by friendly negotiations with the City of Liverpool.

Both the Southgate and the Mynyddislwyn District Councils are drafted to secure to the satisfaction of the local authority sanitary provision in excess of the Public Health Acts and its regulations with regard to vans and tents.

We very much doubt that the Local Government Board will permit by Private Bill Legislation powers in excess of the Public Health and its amending Acts. One of the evils of Private Bill Legislation is the great temptation to public bodies, when promoting a Bill in Parliament, to ask for all sorts of extraordinary powers, and it is a wise and just provision of the great departments of State like the Home Office and the Local Government Board to carefully consider and to report against these extraordinary demands. The liberty of the subject, and the rights and liberties of classes in the community unable to defend themselves against these insidious encroachments upon liberty of life, would soon be taken away but for the careful watching and opposition of interested parties, and the powerful help of the great departments of State.

The Derby Corporation Bill is, by its terms, distinctly limited to hawkers and gipsy vans, and does not apply to the showman van-dweller.

The Parliamentary Defence Committee was given full powers to deal with the matters in question, and to take every wise and proper step by negotiations in the first place, and by petition and appearance by counsel and witnesses in the last resort, to oppose these Bills.

It will be thus seen that the forthcoming session involves matters of grave importance to the whole body of fairground traders and entertainers, and that so long as these attacks are made upon the business of the fairground, so long will it be necessary to maintain the defensive machinery of the Guild in full working order.

Marriage Festivity at the World's Fair.

On the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Douglas F. Bostock to Miss Vi Veevers on Monday, Jan. 27, the whole of the working staff of the famous Bostock-Wombwell Menagerie, now located at the World's Fair, Islington, were entertained to a supper by the bridegroom.

The proprietor of the show and the father of the bridegroom, Mr. E. H. Bostock, presided over the happy gathering, and with him at the high table were his sons, Messrs. Gus and Jack Bostock, also Councillor F. Fitt (Norwich), Mr. Veevers, and Mr. T. E. Read. There was not a dull moment, and a most enjoyable time was spent, the catering, which was excellent, being in the hands of Mr. Harris (manager for Probyn and Co.), and the arrangements were carried out by Mr. J. Tronson, agent for the menagerie.

Various Committee Meetings.

The assembled showmen interested in Trade Defence Work had a very full day and night (Jan. 22), for following on the Guild meeting there was a largely attended gathering of the Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union. Mr. P. Collins, Vice-President of the Union, was in the chair, and extremely important business touching the interests of the members particularly, and of the show business in general, was discussed, and resolutions of importance passed.

The next meeting of the Union was fixed for 2.30, at the Woolpack Hotel, King's Lynn, on Wednesday, Feb. 19. The Secretary was instructed to notify all members to be present at the Lynn gathering.

Following closely upon this gathering there was a meeting of the London Divisional Committee of the Showmen's Guild. Mr. Frank Turner presided, and the committeemen present included Messrs. S. Forrest, R. Clasper, G. Beach, Wm. Beach, Fred Gray, John Searle, and the Rev. T. Horne, secretary.

Questions of importance concerning Mitcham Fair were discussed, and the Organising Chaplain's report with regard to the negotiations still pending with the Conservators, was approved. The Committee then dealt with the Parliamentary Report of new Bills touching showlife so far as they referred to the metropolitan district. The Guild officials were instructed to take such action which might be necessary for the protection of the show business.

The Annual Festive Gathering.

For twenty years past the showmen at the World's Fair have invited their confrères from the provincial centres to a supper and ball. In addition to the supper and ball an excellent concert was given, the artistes taking part in the programme being Miss Gipsy Turner, Miss Melrose, Miss Alice Carney, Miss Montrose, Miss Christine Larkin, Miss Gillson, Miss Flo Leonard, and Miss Florrie Robina, and Messrs. Charles Coburn, Will Bateman, Bob Lloyd, Jock McFurgison, J. M. Caldwinn, Rino Conti, George Grafton, Justin Bryant, and Herbert Knight, assisted by Mr. C. Vernon at the piano.

A very acceptable innovation marked the concert part of the festivities. For the first time the concert was held in a beautifully decorated room apart from the ballroom.

Shortly after the midnight hour the grand dining-hall of the World's Fair was fully occupied (there were not any vacant seats) by showmen and show-women from all parts of the Empire. It was a scene that will linger long in the memory of those present, the beautifully decorated room and exquisitely appointed tables animate with as joyous a crowd of gallant men and fair women as ever partook of a festive meal together.

At the head of the table were Mr. T. E. Read, chairman; the Rev. T. Horne, Guild Chaplain; Mr. C. Fowler, Mr. W. Russell, Mr. Bloodworth, Mr. Frank Mellor, and other showmen of metropolitan fame too numerous to mention.

A Royal Message and the Loyal Toast.

Before proposing the toast of "Their Majesties the King and Queen," the Chairman read the following gracious message from their Majesties at Windsor Castle:—"To the Secretary of the World's Fair London.—Please convey Their Majesties' thanks to the showmen at the World's Fair for their kind greeting.—Stamfordham."

The scene that followed upon the reading of this gracious recognition of the Empire's showmen beggars description, the whole of the assembly rising to their feet, cheering again and again, and the orchestra led the audience in the singing of the National Anthem.

This outburst of loyalty was followed by the toasts of "The King and Queen and the Royal Family," when again the audience uprising honoured the toast with the greatest enthusiasm.

The Rev. T. Horne, replying to the toast, "Success to the Showmen and Van-Dwellers' Association," said it was a delight to him to see so many at their festive gathering year after year. (Hear, hear.) They were to be congratulated on the position the society held after twenty-five years' work. He wanted his hearers to remember that part of the business of their society was the uplifting of the people's amusements. (Applause.) He felt that in Mr. Read they had a chairman who provided such an entertainment that could not be seen under one roof anywhere else in the world. (Applause.)

Mr. Read, in response, said he was delighted to be chairman of such a representative gathering of showmen. They had now held the World's Fair for thirty-four consecutive years—(applause)—and this was the twentieth year they had met to hold their annual supper and ball, and he felt that everyone appreciated the work that had been done for them. They had now added a concert for those who could not dance, which he hoped they would all enjoy. Mr. Read paid a tribute to the Press, and said that all the invitations they had sent out had been accepted, which was a great tribute to them as showmen. (Applause.) He concluded by thanking the committee and officers for the work they had done. (Loud applause.) Mr. Jerome Tronson, replying on behalf of the officers, said all they wanted was to see their fellow-travellers enjoy themselves, and if they did the officials were well rewarded for any work they had done. (Applause.)

Guild Subscriptions, 1913. Second List.

Sir Robert Fossett	£2	2	0
Mr. Wm. Taylor	2	2	0
Mr. Wm. Wilson	2	0	0
Henry Dack	1	1	0
Jacob White and Co.	1	1	0
Mr. Phillips	1	1	0
Mr. W. le Neve	0	10	6
Mr. Charles Cain	0	10	6
Mr. Charles Ive	0	10	6
Mr. Henry Combs	0	10	6
Mr. Wm. Hussey	0	10	0
Mr. Charles Hyatt	0	10	0
Messrs. Edney Bros.	0	10	0
Mr. T. Irish	0	10	0
Mr. E. Hussey	0	10	0
Mr. H. Read	0	5	0
Mr. W. Slatter	0	5	0
Mr. J. Saunders	0	5	0
Mrs. W. Hyatt	0	5	0
Mr. J. Whowall	0	5	0
Mr. M. Catherick	0	5	0
Mr. H. Dickerson	0	5	0
Mrs. Clara Leslie	0	5	0
Mr. H. Dickerson, jun.	0	5	0
Mrs. C. Simpson	0	5	0

The Midland Furnishing Co., of Southampton Row, are noted for holding one of the largest stocks in London. This firm makes a speciality of reproductions from the antique. They have on view completely furnished flats, prices ranging from £50, £150, £250, to £750. Terms of payment can be arranged to extend over a period of two or three years, for which no interest or extra payment is charged.

VARIETY LAW.

"TRYING IT ON."

At Shoreditch County Court on Tuesday afternoon, before Judge Smyly, K.C., there was a "quick-change turn" which vastly amused the large crowd of idlers who habitually find warmth and refuge there. The plaintiff in the action which gave rise to this was Mrs. May Macleod, an actress, professionally known as May Mars, and living in Angell-road, Brixton, who sought to recover £3 10s. from Abrahams and Rosetta, costumiers, of Norton Folgate, in respect of a costume made by them which she declared to be utterly useless.

Plaintiff, fashionably attired in a sealskin cloak and wearing a toque with ostrich plumes, told Mr. A. E. Robinson, her solicitor, that in July last, whilst she was playing at the Olympia, Shoreditch, defendants solicited the honour of her custom. She ordered a plain walking costume of blue serge to cost £3 10s., and paid a deposit of £1. She tried it on three times without satisfactory result. It was altered two or three times, and finally sent home whilst she was away in Hull. She paid the £2 10s. balance, but found that the costume did not fit and that she could not possibly wear it. It was sent back to the defendants and the return of the money claimed.

Mr. Robinson: Actresses are very particular about their dresses?

Plaintiff: They have to be. (Laughter.)

Miss Rosetta, one of the defendants, produced the costume from a brown paper parcel, and assured his honour that it was a perfect fit. She had always been willing to make any alterations that might be needed. Would the lady put it on and subject it to the judge's inspection?

His Honour having agreed to act as umpire, the parties retired to a private room, whence, directly afterwards, the plaintiff emerged wearing the costume and a smile which illuminated the court.

"I don't see how you can call that a fit," remarked his Honour, having examined the costume. "It is far too big."

Defendant: But, your Honour, it was made six months ago.

His Honour: Surely the lady has not wasted to that extent in six months! (Laughter.)

Defendant: It can be altered.

His Honour: I don't think it can. Plaintiff is entitled to the return of the £3 10s., and there will be judgment in favour for that amount, with costs.

Defendant: It is a six-guinea costume, your Honour.

Mr. Robinson: Then you will soon get your money back. (Laughter.)

A VOCALIST'S CLAIM.

At the Westminster County Court, on Thursday, before Deputy Judge Lush, Mr. Paul Brentwood, vocalist, claimed £50 damages for breach of contract from Mr. Walter Forder, theatrical manager, described as of Churchill-road, Great Yarmouth.

The defendant did not appear, nor was he legally represented.

Mr. R. H. Chapman, solicitor, of Manchester, who appeared for the plaintiff, said his client entered into a contract with the defendant in June last to appear from July 1 to Sept. 14 with the Follie Jesters at the Coliseum, Porthcawl, South Wales. He was to receive £2 a week salary and the third share of a benefit performance, in addition to receiving payments in respect of Sunday entertainments. The plaintiff appeared on July 1, and continued until July 27, when he was dismissed without notice, with the result that he lost his salary for the remainder of the season.

The plaintiff gave evidence in support of this statement, and said that in addition to his loss of salary he estimated that his third of the receipts of the promised benefit performance would have amounted to over £5.

Mr. Chapman said he had another witness, but as the defendant did not appear, he did not propose to call him.

His Honour gave judgment for the plaintiff for £20 and costs.

"TWILIGHT CONCERT" AT BECHSTEIN HALL.

At the Bechstein Hall, at 4.45, on Thursday, a "twilight concert" was given by Mme. Liza Lehman and Miss Nancy Price, at which at least two novelties were presented. The first was a recital by Miss Price of "Behind the Night Light," a version of the stories of imaginary animals invented by Joan Maude. Miss Price's little daughter, aged three, with music by her godmother, Mme. Lehmann; and the second, a new monologue by Barry Pain, "The Interlude of a Charwoman," given by Miss Price in costume. In "Behind the Night Light" Miss Price faithfully recorded the idiosyncracies of the Hibbertod, the Hitchypenny, the Kiddikee, the Sticklejag, the Blue Gneeze (who has one eye on the end of his tail, so that it can see what is going on a long way behind), and other weird and wonderful animals. Many of these are, perhaps, the result of fairy and nonsense stories retailed to this "wonder child," and a few, it is possible, are the outcome of a marvellously acute imagination and observation of the habits of certain of her elders. Thus the quaint animal who has peculiar whiskers talks more than any of the others at tea, and is never told not to, because "he is the oldest of all the animals." And then there is the remarkable specimen who is fat—not nicely fat, only fat in the face and "tummy"—and who "collects sausages." Miss Lehmann's illustrative accompaniments were often quaintly humorous, and Miss Price's recital was an altogether delightful one. At the conclusion little Miss Maude was lifted on to the platform between her mother and Mme. Lehmann, and, after being presented with Teddy bears and other toy animals, was induced to make a quaint little curtsey.

In "The Interlude of a Charwoman," Miss Price, disguised out of all knowledge, made her entrance from the back of the stalls, and discoursed very amusingly of the trials of the indispensable helper. Like the majority of her companions of the pail and broom, she has a ready tongue, and if she does not believe much in working herself, is a keen critic of the labour of others. And a special piece of advice to a fellow-worker is: "Always keep in with the cook." It is a motto that should hang over every charwoman's bed. If Cookie retails stories of adventures in motor-cars, the moneyed men she might have married, how her face was different when she was a girl, do not question the truth of her statements; listen patiently, and you will be duly rewarded. The interlude was punctuated with laughter, and Miss Price, cleverly made up, was heartily recalled.

Other contributions to the enjoyable programme, which attracted a crowded audience, were many of Mme. Lehmann's popular songs, all expressively rendered, the artists including: Miss Kathleen Peck, Miss Alys Gear, Mr. Hubert Eisdell, Mr. David Greville, and Mr. Peter Dawson.

Sale of Show Pictures.

Messrs. Bradshaw, Brown, and Co. advertise in our columns the particulars of a sale of interest to show proprietors with side shows and picture galleries. See the advertisement for date of sale and details.

The Oldest Living Animal Trainer.

Prof. Buar claims this proud distinction. He is showing his famous trained moke, "M. Dousino," at the Theatre Sarah Bernhardt, Paris, giving nine performances weekly. He sends greeting to his compatriots at home in Merrie England.

AN ACTOR'S CAREER.

We have an interesting document relating to the career of the actor of the period in Pierce Egan's little-known "Life of an Actor," which came out in 1825, and was recently republished by Messrs. Methuen and Co. The frontispiece showed "the difficulty of becoming a first-rate actor," and the description of it in the preface is really worth quoting from. Thus it ran:

"On the left side at the bottom, or groundwork of the picture, is seen the temptations held out to the youthful, stage-struck, dazzled Proteus to join a company of comedians, as the road to popularity and riches; while Prudence, in opposition, is gently pulling him by the cloak to desist from such a precarious mode of life; at the same time the goddess is holding up a mirror to Proteus, pointing out to him the hardships he must encounter on the chequered road to 'Fame's proud temple.' Prudence also endeavours to draw his attention to the miseries attached to the performances in the barn, denominated in high-sounding terms 'the theatre' by the country manager and his prompter, with the book in his hand, challenging the youthful aspirant to 'Come on!' Likewise to the starving situation of the wretched actor belonging to the apology for a playhouse, who has been compelled to collect a few turnips from the field of some neighbouring farmer to allay the keenness of his appetite, when 'no salary' cheered his longing eyes, as a reward for his exertions to procure him food. . . . .

"Poverty is also one of the rugged roads to fame; and Proteus may be viewed with numbers of his brethren of the sock and buskin endeavouring to overcome all the obstacles which present themselves to performers in general till they obtain the purport of their journey. One pill, very properly, is a dose to several stage-struck youths (private theatrical heroes), when the absurd, injurious applause of their friends is no longer echoed by a public audience; who then stop short in their career—see their folly—return home to enjoy the substantial contents of the cupboard of their parents, rather than continue to run after fame upon an empty stomach—and leave the dramatic world for 'others to bustle in,' while many unfortunate misled young men, whom Nature never intended for actors, 'having neither the accent of Christian, Jew, Turk, or Pagan,' take completely the 'wrong road' altogether, and subject themselves to a history of wretchedness, ridicule, and laughter. Yet, after all the mortification, experience and practice of the life of an actor, mediocrity is the only station hundreds have obtained throughout a long career of 'strutting and bellowing' upon the boards. . . . .

"Pretenders are seen damned for their presumption, and hurled down headlong from the regions of talent; while others of a more supine disposition the plate represents standing still, 'oppressed with doubts and fears,' anxiously looking up to realise greatness; but who despair in obtaining popularity, and ultimately retire in disgust from the stage. Yet during this wavering pause of many strollers, Proteus, the child of genius, industry, and study, may be viewed stepping over numerous heads, determined to get at the top of the ladder—to overcome all impediments thrown in his way—and never to give up the pursuit of his ambition till he is crowned with the appellation of a first-rate actor; but nevertheless, without the assistance of 'fortune,' talent, and genius have frequently been in danger of losing their hold. The recommendations of a beautiful countess, a noble lord, and an M.P. are not to be despised either by the manager or actor when favours are solicited, and likewise when favours are granted."

The book is a naïve yet racy account of an ambitious young actor's struggles and successes; and though his efforts involve him in much that is coarse and sordid, at the bottom of it all is a deep love of great plays and great acting, and an immense capacity for and relish of hard work. The book is of real value as a "document." It tells the story of a young compositor who became "stage-struck." He begins by spouting from "Othello" in his bedroom, and visits with a friend the "house of call for actors," the "Light Horseman," in Orange-court, Leicester Fields, where he is introduced to a "brown-paper manager," Mr. Persuasion, who thus addresses Proteus's friend, Quill: "How do you, my fine fellow? I have had immense success since I saw you last. You know me; and that I have a certain way of doing things at my theatres. It requires a gentlemanly sort of address. The player, sir—the mere actor—will not do! I am the man for a touch of that mind. No one can refuse me, sir. 'Pon my honour, I never met with a refusal in all my life, either from magistrate, lady, lord, or gentleman. In getting a be-speak, I am irresistible!" Proteus plays small parts at the London private theatres, and makes his début at the Haymarket, under the excuse of "a benefit for the widow of an officer." The parts are sold "to the aspirants who desire to appear in them"—the Moor going for £20, Desdemona for the same price, and Cassio being disposed of to Proteus for £5, "with the liberty of selling tickets to relieve his expenses." At another benefit at the same house, Proteus appears in a burlesque entitled "Romeo and Juliet," or "Friar's Balsam," and makes a big success. He finally joins the company of a certain Mr. Screw at a place called "Scanty Corner." This "brown-paper manager" is graphically described as follows:—

"Screw was a complete actor in every part he undertook, excepting characters upon the stage. No man knew his cue better than the brown-paper manager. He was always perfect without the aid of a prompter. The entrances and exits of life he had marked with a shrewdness scarcely equalled, but never excelled, by any of his brethren of the sock and buskin. Screw had self-possession to the very echo; but his feelings, except professionally, were like the rock on which the rain that printless falls; yet he could laugh and cry wherever those incidents were set down in his manuscript, and sometimes with tolerable humour, and even pathos. In his portraiture of bronze, no artist could compete with him. His stock was so immense that he could have furnished twenty cross-examining Old Bailey barristers, without missing a single drop of it. In pursuit of a be-speak, he was not to be denied with the common courtesies of life; rebuffs to him were never remembered; the door shut against his repeated calls was no offence; but he solicited, solicited, and solicited again, till the besieged party had no other resource left to get rid of his importunities but by granting him his request. He was never seen to blush in the whole course of his eventful history; and often candidly confessed, he could not represent such a passage, however strongly it might have been marked by the author. Mr. Screw and his name were never at variance, admitting the extremity of the pun. He was a most careful treasurer to himself, and always had a good balance in his own favour. His superior knowledge of accounts, in dividing the shares of the receipts of his house between the company, was above the comprehension of all his performers; the Accountant-General would have had no chance with Mr. Screw, and Cocker driven out of the field. He was prepared at all points to treat with a stage-struck youth: Mr. Screw baited his trap so ensnaringly that his heroes were caught, for a time, as fast as if they had been held by a vice; and when the delusion had subsided a little, the brown-paper manager was so well versed in the arts of dissimulation as to obtain a conquest a second time, by persuading his 'fresh-caught victim' that he would form a better judgment on the merits of the case when time had mellowed his opinions. The weakness of youth answered his purpose, and to manage the unsuspecting person was mere routine to Mr. Screw. His travels from town to town had done more for him towards obtaining a perfect knowledge of mankind, and an intimate acquaintance with men and things, than the nobleman with his tutor at his elbow, traversing foreign countries in search of information."

Proteus improves so much with practice in the artful Mr. Screw's company, that his next step is an engagement at the Brilliant Shore Theatre (apparently meant for Brighton). Here he becomes the pet of the fashionable world, manages to offend its leader, Sir Henry Gayboy, and thus loses the support of society, and has to fly from "Brilliant Shore" in fear of the bailiffs. In London he is thrown into Whitecross Street prison for debt. On his release he is in dire poverty, and appears in Richardson's Show at Bartholomew Fair. His next experience is in a sharing company under the management of Mr. Best-of-it, whose methods are thus described:—

"Under the management of Mr. Best-of-it, no actor could thrive, his demands for scenes, dresses, travelling expenses, rent of theatre, etc., and who always stipulated his shares were first to be paid out of the money collected at the doors, made such a hole in the receipts of the treasury that, upon several occasions, the shares left for the poor actors were trifling indeed; or, as Proteus often observed, 'no share of money to purchase provisions, but a large surplus of disappointment and misery to feed upon.'"

Things look brighter when the manager of an eminent provincial theatre offers him an engagement; he makes a name in the provinces, marries the daughter of a merchant, and finally goes to London, and ends as the manager of one of its leading theatres.

"Our hero," says the author, "had now obtained the darling object of his life. The strolling player, with all its misery of no salary, an empty larder, and retiring to rest with a hungry belly, were all lost sight of in the high-sounding appellation of one of 'his Majesty's servants,' living on the fat of the land. The talents of Proteus as an actor made a great noise through the metropolis; his début had exceeded in success the most sanguine expectations of his flattering admirers. Overflowing houses occurred every night Peregrine appeared; his articles were cancelled by the managers, his salary considerably increased, and his leisure hours filled up by visits, and spending his time in the company of the greatest wits and authors of the day. The fame of our hero also procured him numerous friends, both before and behind the curtain; and in less than three seasons Proteus was selected from his brethren of the theatre to preside over them as 'the manager!'"

Pierce Egan's book brings us down nearly to the present generation, when the successful actor is admittedly a most enviable being. Courted by society of all sorts, attended to by the Church, titled by his monarch, he has everything to make life happy.

That charming young comedienne, Miss Elise Malpass, whose delightful vocalism and classical dancing in her piquant rendering of the Star Music Co.'s famous "production" number, "Little shepherdess of Devon," has been one of the big outstanding successes of the Grand Theatre, Leeds, pantomime, has been re-engaged for 1913-14. by Mr. John Hart.

The practice of holding regimental gatherings in theatres seems to be growing in popularity in Glasgow. At the Alhambra, on Monday, second house, the theatre was reserved for the Territorial Force Association. At Hengler's, on the previous Monday, the entire evening was taken up, and some weeks before the 5th Battalion, Highland Light Infantry, made the same arrangement. In each case the ordinary programme is gone through, the prize-giving and the speechifying being sandwiched between the turns. On Thursday of this week, at the Lyceum, Govan, the Roy Roy Four-in-Hand Club reserved the entire circle.

At the Gem, Great Yarmouth, this week are Nevill Graham's Co. in "Pride of the Regiment," Amandus and Mlle. Rosina, and pictures.

For the last week of variety at the Theatre Royal, Great Yarmouth, the turns include: Pertah Singh Zenia and Co. in "The Hindoo Temple of Mystery," Kidd Love, Johnny Shields, the Balmorals, and pictures.

This week Lyle and Larry, Dan Filmer, Mamie Tenton and Co. in "Comin' Thro' the Rye," Max Merlin, Diana Hope and Monty Bayly in "The Penny Dreadful," and pictures are included in the bill at the Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

An interesting booklet has been issued in connection with the play, 'Westward Ho!" which will have its first English production at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, this evening. It contains illustrations of the chief scenes and characters, in which Mr. Matheson Lang and Miss Hutin Britton, who play the principal parts, figure impressively.

Owing to indisposition, Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris were unable to appear on Monday at the New Middlesex in "The Adventures of a Happy Tramp," and Mr. Harry Grey deputised for them.

Mr. Edgar Bateman and Mr. H. F. Greenfield have collaborated in a humorous duet for lady and gentleman, entitled "When you and I are one." It has been acquired by several concert parties of distinction, and should certainly have a vogue at the seaside, as it treats in quite a whimsical way of the felicity of domesticity. What subject could be more popular or better adapted to appeal to the sense of fun always so conspicuous in a happy holiday crowd?

TO PANTOMIME MANAGERS.

Available for Pantomime Season, 1913-14.

The first-class production of

DICK WHITTINGTON,

as played with great success at the

THEATRE ROYAL, BIRMINGHAM,

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL,

and may now be seen at the

PRINCES THEATRE, BRISTOL.

Offers to

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General Manager,

Theatre Royal, Birmingham.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each additional word, One Penny.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E., April 14, June 2.
Aug. 4, 11, 18, 25, Sept. 15, 29, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E., April 14, 21, May 5, 12, 19, 26, Aug. 18, 25, Sept. 15, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING, Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 17, 31, April 14, 21, May 5, Aug. 4, 11, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER, April 21, May 19. Aug. 11, 18, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 3, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER. Dec. 15.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON, March 3, April 21, May 12, 19, Aug. 4, 11, 18. on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD. April 21, May 12, Aug. 11, 18, 25, Sept. 8, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON. March 3, 24, May 12, Aug. 4, 11, 25, Sept. 1, 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER, March 24, May 12, 19, 26, June 2, 16, 23, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Pantomimes for next Christmas at:—
Opera House, Leicester. five and a half weeks.
County Theatre, Reading, eight nights.
Dalston Theatre, four weeks.
Please say where can be seen.
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions, March 10, May 5 and 12, and few autumn vacancies. Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Kismet," "Milestones," "Ready Money," "The Quaker Girl," "Chocolate Soldier," Mrs. Langtry, "Waltz Dream," "Count of Luxembourg," "The Whip," "Glad Eye," "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "Sunshine Girl," "Drake," &c.
Re dates, Jay and Mann, 21, Maiden-lane, W.C.

WANTED, first-class Attractions only for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD. March 3. 17, 24, on.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON. March 24, April 14, 21, May 12, on.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY. Feb. 3, and onwards to Easter.
Address, Wm. Holland, T.R., Canterbury.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
WANTED, Feb. 17 (?), on, exceptions, Panto. Production, Xmas.
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for March 10 and 17, April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 12 (Whit.). Also Autumn. Apply, J. E. Bull, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH.
Lessee: Lieut.-Colonel Winstanley.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, Feb. 17, March 3, and later (first three nights).
All communications re dates, Adams' Agency, Broadmead House, Panton-st., Haymarket, S.W.

KEMBLE THEATRE, HEREFORD.
A Magnificent New Theatre, Holding £100.
WANTED, High-class Attractions.
All communications re dates, Adams' Agency, Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket, S.W.
Tel., "Shrieking Charles, London" (counts two words).

THEATRE ROYAL, SWANSEA.
This newly constructed, redecorated, and refurnished theatre is now open for staging the very best productions on the road.
WANTED, Grand Opera, Musical Comedy, High-class Plays, Pantomimes, and every other kind of money-making attraction.
Vacant dates to William Coutts, Proprietor.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions (not Drama), either once or twice nightly,
March 3, 10, 31.
March 3, 10, 31.
March 3, 10, 31.
Now playing to holding capacity nightly.
James Bell.

KELLY'S ENTERPRISES, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Powerful Attractions, for Weeks of Feb. 24, March 17, and May 5.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE
Lessee and Manager, Sidney Bacon.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 10, Sept. 1, on.
Address,
Sidney Bacon, 143, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.
Telephone, Gerrard 1456.
Telegrams, "Nocabdis-Ox-London."

WEST PIER THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for March 3 and 10. Not Melodrama. Apply, A. W. Scholey.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, immediate dates, for twice-nightly Large Suburban London Theatre. All communications, Somerald and Co., 17/19, Great Windmill-street, London.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED. First-class Companies.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. WANTED,
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NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. STAR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. ATTRACTIONS
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. THE
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOLLOWING
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. DATES,
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
Vacant, May 5, June 2, 9, 16, 30, July 7, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY.
Early Spring Vacancies.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Early Spring Vacancies.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Early Spring Vacancies.

"CINDERELLA."
Wanted large Theatre to produce "Cinderella" next season.
Wanted, to Let, on Royalty, for Stock Season or Tour, several Important Dramas, including "The Prairie Flower," "Our British Empire," &c., &c.
All communications to
Arthur Carlton, Ravenscourt, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for March 10 (?) and 17 (?), April 7, and the three nights commencing April 21. Open to treat with first-class management for a three months' Stock Season from about the first week in May. Mr. Albert Sember please communicate.
Applications for dates, &c., to Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only.
T.R., DUBLIN, March 31, April 7, 28 (?)
G.T., DUBLIN, May 19.
O.H., BELFAST, March 17, 24, May 12, 26.
O.H., CORK, Feb. 24, April 7 (?), 28, May 5.
G.T., SWANSEA, June 23, 30.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON, Feb. 10 (3 nights), May 5 (?)
T.R., BOURNEMOUTH, March 17, 31 (?).
P.P.T., BRIGHTON, Feb. 17, 24, March 31.
HIPPO., DARLINGTON, April 14, and good Drama, new to Darlington, May to August.
Apply, The Fredk. Mouillot Offices, 1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

EMPIRE, FLEETWOOD.
EMPIRE, FLEETWOOD.
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EMPIRE, FLEETWOOD.

WANTED, only No. 1 Attractions.
Drama
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or
Musical Shows
Musical Shows
Musical Shows
Musical Shows
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Musical Shows
Musical Shows
Musical Shows
preferred.

Good terms given to the right Companies.

Everything done to insure success in this Beautiful Theatre.

Letters only,
Harry Ward,
Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, W.

WANTED First-class Attractions
Feb. 24. Eastbourne and Folkestone (3 each)
Feb. 24. Hastings (week).
March 3, Folkestone. Hastings (3 nights).
March 3, D.P.T., Eastbourne (week).
H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W

THEATRE ROYAL, HANLEY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for March 24, April 7 14, May 5 and 12, also Autumn Dates.
Apply Chas. Elphinstone.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.
WANTED, "crowd" attracting Plays, July 7, 21, Dec. 8, 15, 22, and various, 1914.
Address, Arthur Jefferson, 132, Charing Cross-road, London. Wires, "Aitenev-Ox-London." 'Phone, Regent 1480.

EMPIRE THEATRE, TONYPANDY.
This magnificent building is now in the full tide of success. There is no other theatre in the Rhondda Valley that can compare with it for comfort, size, and the excellent business done since the new management took it over.
GROSS FOR THE FIRST FOUR WEEKS.
GROSS FOR THE FIRST FOUR WEEKS.
OVER £1,600.
OVER £1,600.
Will Managers refer to Mr. S. R. Squires, "Leah Kleschna"; Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, "Apple of Eden"; Mr. H. L. Osmond, "Babes in the Wood" Pantomime; and the O'Mara Opera Co.

WANTED, March 24, and various on. Share or Certainty.
SAM DUCKWORTH, Empire T., Tonypandy.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.
WANTED, Attraction, Feb. 10, 24, and on.
Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.
WANTED, Good Company, Easter week (vacant through obliging Walter Melville), also March 31, and a few good autumn dates.
J. B. Howard, 15, Clifford's Inn, Fleet-street, E.C.

WHITEHALL THEATRE, EAST GRINSTEAD.
WANTED, First-class Musical Comedy and Comedy Companies.
Address,
Cecil Barth, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st., W.

STANLEY, DURHAM, THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, good Attraction, March 17, through transferring; Musical or Variety Combination preferred. Also Attraction for April 7, 14.
Address, Mark H. Lindon, Theatre Royal, Stanley, Durham.

COMPANIES WANTED.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions only, for the above popular Drama Theatre, as follows:—
April 7,
April 14,
April 21,
May 19,
May 26,
Aug. 4,
Aug. 11,
Aug. 18,
and on, with exceptions.
Write, with full particulars, Moss' Empires, Ltd., Cranbourn-street, London, W.C. Envelopes marked "Theatres."

SEVEN PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies.
CORONET THEATRE, LONDON, W.
March 10, 17, April 21, May 12, 19, June 2, 23.
FULHAM THEATRE, S.W.
March 3, 17, 24 (?), 31, April 14, onwards
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
Feb. 24 (3), March 3, 17, 24, April 7, 21, 28.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Feb. 24, March 3 (3), 10 (3).
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE.
Feb. 27 (3) March 6 (3), 13 (3).
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
March 31 to May 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
March 17, April 3 (3), April 21
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W

MORTON POWELL THEATRES.
WANTED, Wanted, Powerful Plays.
BRITANNIA THEATRE, LONDON.
Spring Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Spring.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
March 3, 10, 17.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Sept 22, Oct. 6, onwards, with exceptions.
This Season's Bookings up to date as follows:—
Sept. 2, "A Royal Divorce."
Sept. 9, Flanagan's "Winter's Tale."
Sept. 16, "Man and Superman."
Sept. 23, "The Chocolate Soldier."
Sept. 30, "The Whip."
Oct. 7, Flanagan's "Othello."
Oct. 14, "The Gay Lord Quex."
Oct. 21, "The Arcadians."
Oct. 28, "Raffles."
Nov. 4, "The Count of Luxembourg."
Nov. 11, "Hindle Wakes."
Nov. 18. "Miss Hook of Holland."
Nov. 25, "His House in Order."
Dec. 2, "The Silver King."
Dec. 9. Local Operatic Society.
Dec. 16, Closed (Panto. Rehearsals).
Dec. 23, Pantomime.
Dec. 30, Pantomime.
Jan. 6, Pantomime.
Jan. 13, Pantomime.
Jan. 20, "Our Miss Gibbs."
Jan. 27, "Brewster's Millions."
Feb. 3, Mr. George Edwardes' Repertoire Co.
Address,
Charles Revill, T.R., Stockport.

WANTED, First-class Twice-nightly Pantomimes, Dec. 22 and 29, for a First-class Theatre.
For the former date, one produced in Scotland prior will have the preference.
Address, E. Dottridge, 50, Union-street, Oldham.

WANTED, First-class Twice-Nightly Pantomimes, next season, for various theatres.
Address, E. Dottridge, 50, Union-st., Oldham.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Feb. 10, 24, intermediate onwards. Address, E. B. Goulden.

CORONET THEATRE, W.
WANTED, Star Attraction, for March 10 and 17.
H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Companies.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, March 3 and 10.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL. March 10.
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS, March 31.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON, Feb. 20 (3), March 3, 10, and 31.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER, Feb. 17 (3), March 10, April 7, 21, 28.
Stanley Rogers, T.R., North Shields.

WANTED, Company, T.R., Whitehaven, Feb. 10, three nights.
O.H., Workington, Feb. 13, three nights.
Wire,
Stanley Rogers, T.R., North Shields.

WANTED, Companies, Feb. 17 (3 nights), Lancaster; Feb. 20 (3 nights), Workington.
Stanley Rogers, Theatre Royal, North Shields.

WANTED, Pretoria, Okehampton; holds 300 (main line, Exeter-Plymouth); scenery, piano, electric light; 65 per cent. to 80 per cent. Tel. address, "Vide," Okehampton.

NEW RINK THEATRE, WREXHAM.
The Metropolis of North Wales.
Local population exceeds 90,000.
Now open for staging the finest productions on the road. Stage 50ft. by 40ft.
Pros. opening 30ft.
WANTED, Musical Comedies, Dramas, &c. First-class only.
Write,
W. Wood Winstanley, Manager, re dates, &c.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, March 10 and March 24, Easter Week.
Apply, Dick Adams, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

OPERETTA HOUSE, CLACTON-ON-SEA.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
Only vacant dates, July 7, 14, 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 11 (3 nights), Sept. 15 (3 nights), Sept. 22, 29. Bookings and pencillings include: Carl Hertz, "Glad Eye" (return), "Jelf's," "Dust of Egypt," "Witness for the Defence," "Milestones," "Cingalee," "Quaker Girl," &c.
A. E. Abrahams,
73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

GRAND THEATRE, RHYL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Easter (last three nights only), Whit., June 30, and on.
Also good pantomime, Jan.
Address, Chas. M. Julian, Manager, Opera House, Londonderry.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions.
April 14, and Autumn.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

COUNTY THEATRE, BANGOR.
WANTED, Grand Opera, Musical Play, or Other Drawing Attraction for March 3. Only spring vacancy. Walters' "Robinson Crusoe" played to £347 odd last week. Refer. James Hare, Proprietor.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE, MOTHERWELL.
WANTED, through obliging, Strong Dramatic Attraction, Feb. 10. Twice nightly. Full particulars to John A. Walker.

COMPANIES WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions Only, April 7, May 26, June 2, July 28.
Address, Lawson Lambert, as above.

PIER THEATRE, HERNE BAY.
PIER THEATRE, HERNE BAY.
PIER THEATRE, HERNE BAY.
WANTED, First-class Companies for one or two good season dates remaining (3 nights).
Last year's bookings included:
"The Quaker Girl," "Dollar Princess,"
"Girl in the Train," "The Glad Eye,"
"Fanny's First Play,"
&c.
Address,
Chas. Evans,
Pier and
Entertainments Manager
to District Council,
Town Hall Offices,
Herne Bay.

LEON VINT'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies.
HIPPODROME, NEATH.
March 13 (3 nights), March 24, April 7, on.
PRINCE OF WALES, NUNEATON.
April 7, 14, 21, May 5, 12.
HIPPODROME, RUGBY.
March 24, April 7, 21, 28, on.
HIPPODROME, PORT TALBOT.
Sept. 1, 8, 22, 29, Oct. 20.
All communications to James J. Welch, c/o Leon Vint, 142, Long-acre, London, W.C.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, Feb. 24, March 10, also Easter (open Saturday, if possible), and various, till Whit. This month's bookings include "The Barrier," "Hindle Wakes," "With Edged Tools," "Leah Kleschna," &c. Apply, Frank Wolsey, Lighthouse Pavilion, Hoylake.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Feb. 17.
Write,
J. Gar Kiddie.

PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.
WANTED, First-class Musical Comedies (once or twice nightly), vacant dates March 17, 31, May 5, 12, 26, June 9, 16, 23, 30, and various Autumn dates. Wire or write Rea, Palace, Gloucester.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
Feb. 24. Feb. 24. Feb. 24.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attraction or Big Pantomime; second in two weeks; drama to precede. Wire or write, Alfred Manners.

THE NORTHERN THEATRES CO., LTD.
WANTED, First-class Pantomimes, 1913-14.
Once and Twice Nightly.
Theatre Royal, Halifax.
Grand Theatre, Halifax.
Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.
Hippodrome, Huddersfield.
Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
Theatre Royal, Bury.
Full particulars to Otto C. Culling, Bury.

WANTED, Good Company, for Feb. 14 and 15, and Easter vacant.
Gates, Selwyn Theatre, Wisbech.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for the following dates: April 7-14, 21, 28, May 5, 19.
Theatre Royal, Bath.

WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions (once nightly), from Feb. 24, onwards (with exceptions). Coms. direct, to W. E. Willis, Grand Theatre, Pentre, Rhondda.

GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Feb. 20 (3 nights), March 10 and 31.
Harry W. Day.

PALACE THEATRE.
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Wanted, Powerful Dramas (twice nightly).
March 31, April 7, 28, May 19.
Apply, T. W. Rowe.

PAISLEY AND PERTH THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Feb. 10, Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 24, April 7.
Apply, J. H. Savile, Paisley Theatre.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE MONK AND THE WOMAN."
WANTED, Wanted, March 31 and on
Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, March 10, 17, 24.
Andrew Melville, Empire T., Holloway, N.

Alexandre Dumas' Masterpiece,
"MONTE CRISTO,"
from the New Princes Theatre, W.C.
The entire production carried.
WANTED, March 10, 31, May 5.
Andrew Emm, Princes Theatre W.C.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
for this Phenomenal Attraction,
Weeks of March 31 and May 26.
Weeks of March 31 and May 26.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
The Most Successful Version Ever Written.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
Weeks of March 24 and 31.
Weeks of March 24 and 31.
Weeks of March 24 and 31.
Once or twice nightly.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres or Halls, Feb. 24, March 17, 24, onward.
Big Company. Full Chorus. Real Negro Specialties.
All the special scenery and printing.
Charles Harrington,
Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich (return).

"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
Feb. 3, 10, 17, and 24,
March 3, 17, and 24.
June 23 and 30, and Autumn.
J. Pitt Hardacre, c/o "The Era."

J. W. CORDINER & HARRY RICHARDSON'S COMPANY.
"THE COLOMBO GIRL."
"THE COLOMBO GIRL."
By Wilfred Carr.
Music by Harry Richardson.
WANTED, Feb. 17, 24 (three nights), March 3 and 24.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER, Feb. 3, QUEEN'S THEATRE, LEEDS.

"BONNIE MARY."
WANTED, Feb. 10, April 7, 14, 21. Once or Twice Nightly. Wire, Charles Locke, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.

MADGE CRICHTON IN "ANN."
WANTED, March 24, April 7, May 12, June 2.
Haldane Crichton, Theatre, Chester.

MR. MARCUS DRAPER'S CO.,
"THE CHRISTIAN."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, March 17 (play Good Friday if possible), Wales or Midlands, also April 28, May 5, 12.
Marcus Draper, Palace Theatre, Perth.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD'S COMPANIES.
ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD'S COMPANIES.

THE ORIGINAL AND BEST.

A COLUMN OF WINNERS.

GOOD WINE NEEDS NO BUSH.

"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

The Idcal Twice Nightly Attraction.

This is without doubt the Finest Spectacular Production ever attempted beyond the precincts of the West-End.

Costumes, Scenery, and General Mounting Unsurpassed.

Bevy of Beautiful Women.

Musical-Director.

In brief, absolutely the last word in up-to-date enterprise.

Managers Delighted.

Will managers please note that, owing to the continued enormous success of "Allah's Orchard," it has been decided to tour this play through the summer. Those with vacant dates kindly communicate for this enormous attraction.

Mr. Hinton wishes to assure managers that this play is the success of 1913.

The general opinion of every town visited: Nothing like it ever seen here before.

Fast filling the autumn, so communicate early, and so secure the play that everyone is talking about.

A company of talented artistes,
including
Miss Florence Zillwood as Muriel Dugarde,
and
Mr. Arthur Hinton as Prince of Barona.

WANTED, Big Theatres.
March 17,
March 17,
April 28, May 19,
April 28, May 19,
and onwards.
and onwards.

Communications re Dates to
ARTHUR HINTON,
OSBORNE THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
March 3 and 10,
March 3 and 10,
April 14, 21,
April 14, 21,
May 5,
May 5,
and onwards.
and onwards.

Again this successful play will go right through the summer.

A Few Autumn Dates Vacant.

WARNING. WARNING.—To Public Halls, &c. It having come to my knowledge that certain persons are performing my copyright play, "His Indian Wife," without permission, I wish to inform managers of above places, and all whom it may concern, that on any such case becoming known to me I will immediately take steps to prevent same.

"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,
Feb. 17,
Feb. 17,
March 17.
March 17,
April 14,
April 14,
May 19,
May 19,
and onwards.
and onwards.

ARTHUR HINTON and LEILA ZILLWOOD
Wish to inform Managers they have secured
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
by the talented Authoress,
Miss Emma Litchfield.

Production,
LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH, Feb. 24.
Everything travelled, including a Horse.
Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,
March 3,
March 3,
April 14,
April 14,
May 5, May 12, and onwards.
May 5, May 12, and onwards.
NEW PRODUCTION.
NEW PRODUCTION.
Aug., 1913.
Aug., 1913.
Aug., 1913.
Title will be announced later.
If you see it in a Hinton and Zillwood advert. it is so.

Re Dates.
Mr. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS,
"Holmdene," 3, River Bank, Hampton Court,
Telephone, 1733 Kingston-on-Thames.

THEATRES WANTED.

GORE OUSELEY'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Wanted Dates,
for the Haunting
"CINGALEE."
Whit Week! Whit Week!!
Whit Week!!! Open.
Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"ANN."
The latest Criterion success,
with
Miss MADGE CRICHTON
in the Title-rôle.
Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.
or
Haldane Crichton, Royalty T., Chester.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
Whit Week Vacant.
"THE GOLD DIGGERS;
or, THE BROKEN TRAIL."
The most vivid Drama ever written.
Once or twice nightly.
Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.
Wires, "Ouseley, London."

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"TURKISH DELIGHT;
or, A SULTAN FOR A NIGHT."
By Percy Ford.
A Musical Comedy Sketch in 2 Scenes
Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.
Wires, "Ouseley, London."
General-Manager, E. P. Morgan.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
Played by a Cast that spells SUCCESS.

Mr. John Worth.	Mr. Edwin Morton.
Mr. Evan Roland.	Mr. Reg. Oldroyd.
Mr. Fred Dalby.	Mr. T. C. Glenville.
Miss Maude Steeples.	Miss Sybil Haughton.
Miss Nancy Newell.	Miss Freda Frederick, and Miss Doris Brookes.

WANTED, Feb. 17, 24, Feb. 17, 24
March 17, 24, March 17, 24.
FRED. BULMER,
Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.

"10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."
WANTED, April 14, 21, and Whit., to follow Nottingham, Mansfield, Worksop, Bangor, Gloucester, Dublin, and precede Aston, Smethwick, Canning Town, Hammersmith, Elephant, &c.
Horace Stanley. This and next, Hippo., Bilston.

MR. AND MRS. HARRY LYNDON'S TOUR.
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, Feb. 24, 24, 24,
March 10, 10, 10,
Easter, Easter, Easter,
for this great Play. The finest mounted, dressed, and played Drama on the road. Full coloured printing and unique advertising.
Refer any Manager visited.
This, Royal, Wolverhampton.
Next, THE PLAYHOUSE, STAFFORD.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
WANTED, March 31, April 7, 14 (?), 21.
Only Vacant Dates This Spring.
Now Booking Autumn.
"IN A MAN'S POWER."
"IN A MAN'S POWER."
"IN A MAN'S POWER."
"IN A MAN'S POWER."
Also by Shirley and Landeck.
Wanted, Feb. 10, May 19. 26, June 9.
Only Vacant Dates Until Autumn.
Address, for Both Attractions,
J. Forbes Knowles,
Grand Theatre, Luton.

"A BLIND GIRL'S LOVE."
WANTED, March 3, 17, 24. Twice Nightly preferred. Wire, Charles Locke, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.

Along the line the signal ran,
There is no play like "MAN TO MAN."
WANTED, Feb. 24, March 3, Sept. 1, 15.
Edward Lloyd, T.R., Wolverhampton.

"THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME."
A Perfect Production. Refer all Theatres Visited.
WANTED, March 10, 24, onwards.
Edward Lloyd, T.R., Wolverhampton.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatres for above, from Easter onwards. Would rent a good Provincial Theatre. Letters, Stafford, Biddenden, Kent.

"DIANA OF DOBSON'S."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 10 between London and Hull, 31. Entire actual Kingsway Theatre production. Bookings include all principal provincial and suburban theatres.
Harold V. Neilson, Hippodrome, Crouch End, N.

"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Easter Week, also
March 31,
May 19.
Aug. 4, 11, 25.
E. L. Garside,
Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
in
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN,"
"ROLLICKING RORY."
WANTED, no vacant dates till Spring, 1914.
Feb. 3, Opera House, Londonderry.

"HINDLE WAKES."
Now Booking Summer and Autumn.
WANTED, March 31 and April 7.
All applications, Edwin T. Heys,
Mile End, Stockport.

MESSRS. C. ADOLF SEEBOLD'S AND MAT MELROSE'S PANTOMIME, "ALADDIN."
WANTED, Feb. 17 and 24, once or twice nightly, to follow Macclesfield.
C. ADOLF SEEBOLD'S "LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD" PANTOMIME.
Wanted, Feb. 17 and 24, to follow Lowestoft. Both Companies of over Forty Artistes. Magnificent Scenery and Dresses. Breaking all records at Theatres visited. Refer to Managers.
Wire or write, with best offers, to
C. Adolf Seebold, Theatre, Worthing.

"ONE LIFE, ONE LOVE."
WANTED, Feb. 17, March 31, and on. Twice Nightly. Wire, Charles Locke, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.

MR. AND MRS. WILSON BENGE'S CO.
"THE COWBOY'S REVENGE."
WANTED, March 17, 24, March 17, 24; vacant, March 17, 24, few onwards. Bookings: Manchester, Preston, Salford, Woolwich, Stratford, South Shields, Newcastle, &c. Letters, T.R., Swansea.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
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MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
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THE PRAIRIE OUTLAW.
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
North Co. Vacant March 10, March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10, March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10, March 10.
South Co. Vacant Aug. 4.
South Co. Vacant Aug. 4.
South Co. Vacant Aug. 4.
Fast Booking the two Co.s Autumn.
Fast Booking the two Co.s Autumn.
Fast Booking the two Co.s Autumn.
This play has broken all records for business at the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.
Also at other theatres.

THE WILD GIRL OF THE FOREST.
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Guaranteed one of the best mounted military plays on the road.
Beautiful Uniforms, &c.
Vacant March 17, Easter
Vacant March 17, Easter.
Vacant March 17, Easter.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.

WAS SHE TO BLAME?
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.

HER PATH OF SORROW.
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.

MRS. F. C. KIMBERLEY'S NEW PRODUCTION.
Production Aug. 18, at the Junction, Manchester,
With the Broadhead Circuit to follow.
Title to be known later.
Another new play in active preparation.
Many thanks to Mr. Percy B. Broadhead for all his theatres.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Lessee and Manager, F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant March 17, Aug. 11.
Vacant March 17, Aug. 11.
Vacant March 17, Aug. 11.
Few later dates.
Few later dates.
Few later dates.

J. NEWTON COWLING'S TOUR.
THE COLLIER'S LASS.
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Two companies on the road of this great success.
Both equal.
North Co. Vacant March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.
Both companies nearly full for Autumn.
Both companies nearly full for Autumn.
Both companies nearly full for Autumn.

HER SECRET LOVER.
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Managers needing good, sound, honest attractions, book
Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's Plays.
Write for same to
F. G. Kimberley,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
"BROUGHT TO RUIN."
Feb. 3, 10, 17.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL WITHOUT A HOME."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Strong Attraction,
Aug. 4, 11, 18.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Powerful Play,
Feb. 10, 17, 24.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
Feb. 10, 17, 24.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
Feb. 3, 10.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

BRITANNIA THEATRE,
LONDON, N.
Enormous Success
of
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Wanted, Big Theatre,
in Large City,
for next year,
for production of
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
One of the
greatest successes
seen for years.
"The Rose Garden."
A Magnificent Stage Picture.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"THE MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD."
WANTED, for this fine play, First-class Theatres, from April 21 to June 9. Hamilton Stewart, T.R., Hyde.

"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE" AND
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 24, 31, April 7, 14.
Hamilton Stewart, T.R., Hyde.

"AFTER THE OPERA" and
"THE DUST OF EGYPT."
WANTED, March 24 (?), 31 (?), April 14 (North), Aug. 4, 18.
George Waters, 4, Park-place, St. James-st., W.

HERBERT FULLER'S POWERFUL COMPANY.
"AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER."
WANTED, Feb. 24, March 3 (South), 17, 24, April 14. 28, May 5, June 2, 16, 23, July 21, 28, Aug. 18, and various on. Spring Bookings:—Portsmouth; Alex., Hull; G., Grimsby; King's, Preston; Met., Glasgow; Junc., Manchester; Leicester; Woolwich; Hip., Huddersfield; Dublin, Belfast, Watford, Halifax, Dewsbury, Dundee, &c.
Also "MOTHERLESS."
Vacant May 19, June 9, and various on.
Entire Productions Carried. Star Casts.
Wire, T.R., Jarrow; write, Met., Gateshead.

"BONNIE MARY."
WANTED, Feb. 10, April 7, 14, 21. Once or Twice Nightly. Wire, Charles Locke, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.

GEORGE N. BALLANGER'S
Latest American Production,
"THE ROUND UP."
The real thing in cowboy melodrama.
Enormous success this week at the Grand, Nottingham.
WANTED, Big Theatres or Music Halls for the following dates:—
Feb. 24,
March 10 and 24 (?),
April 28, May 5 and 12 (?),
Aug. 4, and various onwards.
A beautiful scenic production. Powerful company. Everything carried, a clear stage only required.
Wire for Feb. 24,
Geo. E. Carleton, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.
Next, Hippo., Bolton.

HARRY JOSEPH'S
PANTOMIME CO.
WANTED, Feb. 10, on, with exceptions.
50 Artistes, six Specialities.
All coms. County Theatre, Bangor, N.W.

"A TRIP TO CHINATOWN."
WANTED, April 21, April 21, April 21, July 28, Aug. 4, 11, 18 (seaside towns).
Harold Wagner, Metropole Theatre, Abertillery.

WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 10.
Wanted, Feb. 10.
Mr. Robert Burnett's No. 1 Company, in
"The Bear-Leaders."
Full production from Comedy Theatre. Wire or write, Fellowes Robinson, Coronet T., London, W.

"ALADDIN."
First-class Production. Excellent Company.
A Big Success.
WANTED, Important Theatres or Music Halls, Feb. 10, and onwards; in or near London preferred.
Managers of important theatres are invited to see the production during next week (Feb. 3) at the Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, with a view to business next season.
C. Constant, 17, Burleigh-mansions,
Charing Cross-road, London.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Theatres, March 17 (Midlands or North).
April 14 (?) and May 26 (?).
Address,
Cecil Barth, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st., W.

"A BLIND GIRL'S LOVE."
WANTED, March 3, 17, 24. Twice Nightly preferred. Wire, Charles Locke, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, next season, or Variety Halls.
Certainty or Share, for
Dottridge and Longden's
Famous Pantomimes.
Address, E. Dottridge, 50, Union-street, Oldham

"LUCKY MISS CHANCE."
"LUCKY MISS CHANCE."
WANTED, Feb. 13 (3 nights), between Maidenhead and Worthing.
Wanted, Feb. 24 (follow Deal).
Wanted, March 6 (3 nights), follow Canterbury, and various on.
Easter vacant.
W. T. Ivory,
Olympia Theatre, Coalville.

HARRY BRISTOW AND MAY FORDE'S
"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Good Theatres, March 3, 10.
Harry Bristow, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

The Great Farcical Success,
"THE AMAZONS."
From the Duke of York's Theatre.
One of the best and brightest of the Pinero farces.—"Daily Chronicle."
WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 17,
Feb. 17,
Feb. 17,
(through transfer to oblige).
also March 31 (3), May 5, July 28, on.
Address, Alfred Gray, Opera House, Burton-on-Trent.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A FATAL CROWN."
"A FATAL CROWN."
"A FATAL CROWN."

WANTED, First-class Theatres or Halls
Feb. 24, March 10, 31.
Feb. 24, March 10, 31.
Feb. 24, March 10, 31.

An instantaneous success,
An instantaneous success,
Hippodrome, Stockton, and T.R., Leicester.
Hippodrome, Stockton, and T.R., Leicester.

Record business,
Record business.
Undoubtedly the biggest spectacular show touring.
Over 50 people staged.
Wire immediately for Feb. 24, March 10, 31.
Jas. Bell,
T.R., Darlington.

H. MONTAGUE ASHLEY and CAMPBELL GOLDSMID Enterprises.
"WITH EDGED TOOLS"
(by arrangement with Armitage and Leigh).
WANTED, Easter week, Wanted March 31 (North or Midlands), April 21, 28, May 19 (follow Lyric, Hammersmith), Aug. 11 (follow Kelly's, Liverpool), Sept. 8, 15 (North), 29 (Midlands).

"UNDER THE CANOPY."
The Great Russo-Jewish Play,
by J. James Hewson.
Production date, Aug. 25, Lyric, Hammersmith. Wanted, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 13, 20, Nov. 10 (follow Stratford), Dec. 8 (follow Alex., Birmingham).
N.B.—"Under the Canopy" will be one of the finest productions and companies on the road. No expense will be spared to make it one of the greatest drawing plays touring. Exceptional cast of 18 Artistes, including:—
MAUD MORTON POWELL
as NAOMI.
CAMPBELL GOLDSMID
as GENERAL IVAN PETRAVNO.
All communications,
To-day, T.R., Yeadon, Yorks.
Next week, G.T., Rawtenstall.

WANTED, Theatres and Music Halls, for
MINSTRELS.
MINSTRELS.
MINSTRELS.
Now that the Minstrels are coming back, have the best. It is the cheapest in the end.
Note that W. J. Churchill was the first to Revive this Class of Entertainment in 1909 and 1910, having appeared at the following Halls:
Free Trade Hall, Manchester,
Albert Hall, Sheffield,
Halifax,
Wigan,
Dewsbury,
Wolverhampton,
Malvern,
Portsmouth,
Shrewsbury,
Etc., etc.
This is a Real Minstrels' Show. Everything up to date. We can show one or two houses a night.
Shares or Certainty.
Independent of the Minstrel Show, there are five Special Turns besides my own Single Turn.
First vacant date, Oct. 13, 1913.

Letter to W. J. Churchill,
Tivoli, Dublin.

"ONE LIFE ONE LOVE."
WANTED, Feb. 17, March 31, and on. Twice Nightly. Wire, Charles Locke, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.

"THE BLACKGUARD OF THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT." Star Cast.
WANTED, April 14, 14, 14. E. Hill-Mitchelson, T.R., Leicester.

The Great Mormon Play,
"THROUGH DEATH VALLEY; OR, THE MORMON PERIL."
WANTED, Feb. 24, March 3 and 24, April 7. Third year of tour. Company of Eighteen. Everything carried.
Address, Bertram, 8, Rupert-court, London, W.
Telegrams, "Bertram, Killarney, Lewisham."

GEORGE N. BALLANGER'S CO.,
Young Buffalo,
and Caroline May Blaney,
in "KING OF THE WILD WEST."
WANTED, March 10. 31. May 5 and 12. Frank Mundill, Princes T., Portsmouth.
Next, Grand, Plymouth.

WANTED, Theatres, Pier Pavilions, &c., for Wellesley Lynn's unique entertainment of mirthful, mystical, and musical recitals; six first-class artistes; several big drawing novelties. Manager, 119, Fielding-road, Bedford Park, W.

ARTISTES WANTED.

"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
WANTED, Experienced Actress, for Flash 'Liz; capable of comedy, power, and pathos. Also Tall, Responsible Man; short but important part. Particulars and terms for long tour. Arthur Rodney, Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester.

WANTED, Smart Young Lady, of good appearance; must have strong, clear, speaking voice, and be quick witted. Write fullest partics. in first instance, enclosing photo., also stamp if you desire photos. returned, A. Z., 147, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

"WITH EDGED TOOLS."
WANTED, Tall, Experienced Juvenile Actor, for part of Jack Meredith; photos., fullest particulars, references. Also reliable Master Carpenter. Coms., Ashley and Goldsmid. To-day, T.R., Yeadon, Yorks. Next week, G.T., Rawtenstall.

WANTED, Good Broad, Leading Low Comedian, for London Halls. Commence about Easter. Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Smart Young Gent., tall, for small but important part in comedy sketch.
No premium required, but must give services in return for tuition.
Letters, Le-Roy, Palace Music Hall, Bedlington.

WANTED really good Tenor and Contralto, Operatic Sketches. State refs., terms., photo, &c., E. Ch. Gittins, Workmen's Hall, Blaenavon, Mon.

WANTED, Vocalists (Contraltos and Baritones), also High-class Entertainers, for Sunday Dinner Concerts at leading West-End Restaurant. Full particulars as to qualifications, experience, and terms, in confidence, to
Box 2,558, Willings, 125, Strand, W.C.

"THE KING'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, to Complete Cast; spring tour; commencing Feb. 24, Alexandra Theatre, Hull. Full particulars, photograph, references, lowest terms, Vivian Edmonds, 2, Buckingham House, Trinity-road, Wandsworth Common, S.W. Interviews by appointment only.

E. HILL-MITCHELSON'S CO.
WANTED, for Stock, commencing Whit week at T.R., Middlesbrough, Producer, first-class Leading Artistes, Child Actress. Scenic Artist. Photos., terms, refs., E. Hill-Mitchelson, T.R., Leicester.

WANTED, Amateurs with talent requiring experience in Small Parts and Understudies in West-End comedies, can obtain immediate employment by communicating with Box 4,241, "The Era."

WANTED, Miss Lilli Gale, or Stafford (Transvaal and Bristol), who was in Scotland winter 1907-8, subsequently in "The Maid and the Motor Man" Co., to receive news to her advantage. This lady probably returned to Johannesburg 1908. Will any person having slightest clue to her present whereabouts, or who was ever acquainted with her, kindly take any possible steps to notify her, and write immediately to Box 4,212, "The Era"?

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED, Principals, Chorus, Musical Directors, &c., for next season's Pantomimes.
Address, E. Dottridge, 50, Union-street, Oldham.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Shakespearean Producer to Coach Amateurs in "Henry V." and "Comedy of Errors"; four or five weeks' engagement. Lowest terms, names and addresses last two references, to Arthur Carlton, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, an Up-to-date Manager, For a London Music Hall. None but those with initiative need apply. Write, giving full particulars as to experience, references, and salary expected, to Box 4,285, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart, Energetic Acting-Manager, for Theatre Royal, Aldershot. Apply, in first instance, with latest references, &c., to Clarence Sounes, Empire, Kingston.

WANTED, for First-class Provincial Music Hall, Smart Stage-Manager; used to lightning programme; must be able to train and control staff. Box 4,269, "The Era."

WANTED, Single Young Man, as Business-Representative, to tour with Lord John Sanger and Sons, Ltd. State salary and send photograph in first letter. Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, for Pool and Bosco, Ltd., commence Easter Monday, Operator-Electrician, and understand limes; also good Live Agent, used to the country; particulars, refs., terms expected, &c. E. Burgess, Circus Farm, Sydenham, Belfast.

LORD JOHN SANGER AND SONS, LTD., ROYAL CIRCUS AND MENAGERIE.
TENTING SEASON, 1913.
WANTED, for Long Tour, Several First-class and Experienced Window Billers; respectability and sobriety essential.
Interviews by appointment only.
Communications, W. Furno Drake,
18, St. James's-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, a Thoroughly Practical Billposter, to take charge of small business; one who will make himself generally useful about theatre. State age, latest refs., wages required. Mark H. Lindon, Billposting Department, Theatre Royal, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, post, Acting Manager or Assistant. Some experience. Can type.
Apply Box 4,268, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, by practical Variety Stage Manager; a man who understands his business; now working West-End Theatre. Box 4,260, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Advance and Advertising Agent. Twenty years' experience; circus or fit-up. Excellent refs. W. H. M., 6, Chesson-rd., West Kensington, London.

WANTED, Known, Francis Donnelly, Bioscope Operator and Violinist Con., five months' stock as Violinist; dis. Feb. 5. Address, 2, St. Augustine's-place, Limerick. After Feb. 5, 335, Hyde-road, Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, by Operator-Electrician, D.C., A.C., M.G.; ten years' good refs.; one or two houses nightly, continuous or Variety. Operator, 83, Garden-lane, Bootle, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Billposter, to travel with Circus Agent, England or Continent. Used to big posting. B., 13, Epirus-flats, Walham Green, London.

WANTED, by Man, age 30, Situation, Music Hall, Theatre, Picture Palace Attendant, or any place in same; willing to make himself handy. Add., E., 43, Burton-road, Brixton, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, Pictures and Variety, for Small Orchestra.
Age, references, lowest terms, to
H. Samson, Vint's Palace, Barry Dock.

WANTED, immediately, Violin-Conductor, Violinists, and String Bass; Union Castle Line. Apply, 415, Strand, Monday, at 3. Violinists, bring instrument.

WANTED, Ginnett's Circus, tenting, Leader, 1st Cornets, Trombone, Eupho., Bass, and Drums.
Commencing about March.
Address, Circus, Abingdon.

WANTED, Violinist (Leader), to open Feb. 10, for twice nightly Picture T.; only those that play concert programme and trios apply. Terms, refs., J. McCall, Mus.-Dir., 453, Cleethorpe-road, Grimsby.

WANTED, Young Lady Violinist; must be good Leader and excellent sight reader; permanency to a suitable artiste. Letters, photo., &c., to Box 4,272, "The Era."

WANTED, Good First Violin.
Steady and reliable. State age, experience and salary required.
Apply,
Mus. Dir., Smethwick Theatre Royal.

WANTED, Good First Violin for London Music Hall, to open Feb. 10. Box 4,279, "The Era."

WANTED, Solo Violinist (North); used to restaurant trio.
Full particulars to Box 4,281, "The Era."

WANTED, Violinists, 'Cellists, Pianists, and Double Bass Players, for Royal Mail Liners. Apply to Enos Greene, 205, Fordwych-road, Cricklewood, N.W.

WANTED, First Cornet; commence Monday, Feb. 10. References, terms, age, to Wilde, Mus. D., Palace Theatre, Southampton.

WANTED, Good Cornet, to open Monday, Pictures and Variety, permanency; also 'Cello, to open shortly. Conductor, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

WANTED, Wanted, Cornet.
Permanency for good man.
Apply, Smithson, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, 'Cello, to commence Feb. 10; must understand Variety business. Apply, stating full particulars, D. J. Clarke, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Wanted, First-class 'Cello.
Wire lowest terms,
Sounes, Hippodrome, Aldershot.

WANTED, 'Cello, for Amateur Orchestra, London; clerical or other employment found. State age and qualifications to
Box 4,234, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, Lady 'Cellist; must be first-class Orchestral Player and Soloist; permanent if suitable. Dorothea A. Vincent, Palace Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, First-class Lady Musicians, Soloists and Orchestral Players, for now and Summer Season. Dorothea Vincent, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W.

GRAND THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, Oboe Player, must be good reader, and used to opera, to commence Feb. 10.
Write, with references, Louis Hermann.

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo, at once.
Permanency to good performer.
Apply, Felix Burns, Palace, Doncaster.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

DISTRICT ASYLUM, MELTON, SUFFOLK.
WANTED, an Attendant, must be a good Clarinet Player, able to read music at sight, and used to string orchestra; wages to commence at £32 a year, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; at the end of one year £2 increase, afterwards rising by annual increments of £1 up to £42; further increase according to ability as an attendant. An annual addition of £3 is given after five years' service, and a further £2 after ten years' service.
The appointment will be made subject to the provisions of the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909.
No deductions from wages under the National Insurance Act.
Applications to be sent to the Medical Superintendent, enclosing copy of one testimonial.

WANTED, Good Pianist, for Band of Crack Cavalry Regiment, stationed in England. An excellent opportunity for a capable young man to become acquainted with military music. Apply, No. 457, Hawkes and Son, Denman-street Piccadilly Circus, W.

BOURNEMOUTH MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, to commence March 24 or sooner, first-class Pianist as Accompanist, &c. (one combining violin preferred); also Principal Clarinet, Second Horn, and Viola; must be thoroughly first-class, experienced men, used to symphony concert work; permanent engagement; no Sunday work; two weeks' holiday. Apply, with terms and references, to Dan Godfrey, Musical-Director, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Jarrow, Pianist, to combine 2nd Violin or Viola; comfortable and permanent engagement to a suitable applicant. Apply, stating refs., lowest terms, to Hugh Robertson.

WANTED, for Edinburgh, Pianists, 'Cellists, Violinists, Flutists; permanencies to suitable men. Write, stating references (copies only), salary required, &c., to R. C. Buchanan, 6, Johnst. Adelphi, London, W.C.

WANTED, Young Lady Pianist; good sight reader; to take part in Musical Act; stage experience unnecessary. Apply to J. Lingham, 80, Norfolk House-road, Streatham Hill, London, S.W.

WANTED, Good Pianist, also Good Violinist, for crack Infantry Band. Must be able to read at sight. Excellent prospects for intellectual, hard-working youths. Apply for particulars, Bandmaster, 2nd Yorkshire Regt., Blackdown, Hants.

WANTED, Good Lady Pianist, middle-aged, robust appearance, height 5ft. 8in. or taller. Strong voice, able to patter. Assist well-known Lady Music Hall Artiste in New Act.
Photos will be returned
Box 4,288, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Piano Player, steady, good reference, to travel. State age, wage, Bloom, Auctioneer, Haughton, Darlington.

WANTED, Drummer, with Tympanis.
Apply, Musical-Director,
Lyceum Theatre,
Sheffield.

WANTED, for Summer Season, commencing Whit, Clever, Smart Lady Instrumentalists. Lowest terms, &c., particulars, to Box 4,271, "The Era."

DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN.
WANTED, First-class Orchestra, of eight performers.
Apply, Winter Gardens, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, for Pool and Bosco, Ltd., Full Band for Tenting Season, 1913, commencing Easter Monday; also Conductor. Particulars, E. Burgess, Circus Farm, Sydenham, Belfast.

WANTED, Professional Men to Join the Nat. Fed. of Professional Musicians for business purposes and mutual aid. 39, Gerrard-st., London, W. 'Phone, 1273 Regent.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Musical-Director; would accept First Violin or Viola; 13 years Moss-Stoll (viola); liberty shortly. Musicus, 22, Braenol-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, Shop, Smart M.-D., or Conductor, Violin;
just finished Panto
Letters, Wayt, Lucerne Sea-road, Boscombe.

WANTED, Engagement, first-class Piano-Conductor or Pianist, and Clarinetist; both experienced; any business; good refs.; combined engagement preferred. 27, Wouldhave-street, South Shields.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Leader, (Violin), 52 weeks in year, lib. Feb. 16. W. Salmon, 77, Park-road, Bargoed, Glam.

WANTED, Engagement, First Violin or Viola (A.M.U.).
Nicholls, 20, West Caroline-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, 1st Violin; experienced in Variety, Pictures, Drama; disengaged Feb. 16, through closing of Winter Season. Repetiteur, Hengler's Cirque, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist; thoroughly capable and experienced; variety preferred; references; join at once. M., 8, Shirely Park-rd., Southampton

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First-class Violinist; any business, or deputising; highest refs., &c. Write, Violinist, 29, Northway-road, Coldharbour-lane, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, as Leader or Conductor, any business. Address, J. Wolstenholme, Leader, Hengler's Cirque, Glasgow.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, South Coast, as Violin, first or second; can combine second or third clarinet. Apply, Box 4,270, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, exper. Cornetist; any bus., young, steady, can commence Monday. London only. Perm. or season.
A.M.U., 47, Stopford-rd., West Ham, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Cornet (1st or 2nd); 23; steady, reliable, references; liberty at once. Cornettist, Peacock, Kidbrooke Cottages, Blackheath, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Cornet (Theatre only; no Varieties); brilliant player; can open at once. Box 4,276, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, 1st Clarinet; combine 2nd violin; any business; London or provinces; good refs. Sweetman, 232, Carr-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Re-engagement, for Clarinet; highest references, London preferred.
Box 4,277, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, good Clarinet, disengaged.
Gordon,
86, Southfield-road, Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Clar.; any business; sober and reliable; good ref.
Box 4,237, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement by a Good Trombone. Ten years' experience Dramatic and Variety business. Address, G. Spiers, 92, St. George's-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Lady Cellist, solo and orchestral, is open for engagement from Feb. 10; London preferred. Box 4,274, "The Era."

WANTED, by 'Cello and Bass, Deputising or Engagement; any business; good references. 'Cellist, 64, Chesnut-road, Plumstead.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by 'Cellist; any business. E. Holland, Stanley-road, Teddington, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Flautist; some experience, wishes join Trio, Quartette Party, or Orchestral Engagement. Box 4,266, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Flute and Piccolo, immediately, fully experienced, just finished Panto. season, moderate terms. Burgess, Princes Theatre, Blackburn.

WANTED, Known, Mezzo Soprano (trained), excellent pianist and accompanist, wishes Engagement in select Tea-rooms in West End, or evening engagement. Box 4,278, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by High-class Solo or Orchestral Pianist. Just concluded long engagement West-End Theatre. Extensive répertoire. Box 4,267, "The Era."

WANTED, by Musician, expert on Xylophone, Double Drum, Tympani, Glockenspiel, etc., engagement, Orchestra or Stage. Soloist. Highest class references. Reply to S. Goldberg, 94, Selater-street, Brick-lane, Shoreditch, E.

WANTED, Known, to Picture Theatres, Mme. Walter can supply Ladies' or Gentlemen's Bands.
All experienced performers and picture players.
29, Southampton-st., Fitzroy-sq., London.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone, 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Miss Dorothea Vincent's celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestras; three to forty performers; smart uniform. 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone, 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Winternitz, Ladies' Orchestras, Trios, Quartettes, or Individual Musicians Supplied at shortest notice; immense library, brilliant music. 31, Alexandra-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Miss Maude Trainer's Ladies' Orchestra, Empire, Hawick, N.B. Disengaged Feb. 15, owing to change of management. Concluding three months' successful engt. First class at Variety, &c. Apply as above.

WANTED, Engagement; high-class Instrumental Quartette (Ladies); Violin, Flute, Piccolo, 'Cello, Piano, and Organ; could open Feb. 3, Conductress, Cinema, 28, Leicester-square.

WANTED, by Good Trio (Violin, Piano, and 'Cello), Engagement in First-class Picture Palace. Miss Valentine, 32, James-st., Llanelly.

To Hydro, Hotel, and Café Proprietors.
WANTED, Known, First-class Orchestral Trio of Brilliant Musicians (Violin, 'Cello, and Piano), shortly concluding successful engagement, invite offers; extensive and up-to-date repertoire. Box 4,282, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTED.

WANTED, for Ginnett's Royal Circus tenting season, Artistes in All Lines; good Bar Performer write; also Agent in Advance; Full Band. Address, Ginnett's Circus, Abingdon, Berks.

WANTED, for Pool and Bosco, Ltd., 1913, Artistes for Tenting Season, commencing Easter Monday; good Doubles doing Singles; people able to work on Waggon Stage given preference; lowest terms. E. Burgess, Circus Farm, Sydenham, Belfast.

WANTED, Circus Attraction, Irish Singing Clown, Leader (own music), and Euphonium; Mat Corbett write. Fred Lewis, The Grand, Joy-street, Belfast.

WANTED, at once, Single Young Man; good Knockabout, Gymnastic Tumbler.
Full particulars, age, height, weight, lowest salary, Box 4,132, "The Era."

WANTED, for France, Cirque Pinder, and few Grooms, to commence at once. Address, Watson, 72, Liverpool-road, Islington, London.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Circus Proprietors, and Directors of Gardens, Exhibitions, and Open-air Pleasure Resorts to know
THE THREE ROYAL OHMYS,
Greatest of Acrobatic Bare-back Riders, are at liberty for the coming Summer Season, with six great up-to-date Circus Numbers. Something new and never seen in any Gardens in England before. The Three Royal Ohmys have made the greatest success ever known at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London. Complimented by everyone that has seen their grand acts, including all the Circus Proprietors and Managers that have visited the Hall this season. The Three Royal Ohmys will be at liberty Feb. 17. Address, Royal Agricultural Hall, London.

WANTED, Known, Rose Mayon, Gymnast, Dancing Aerial Wire, and Trapeze Artiste, liberty tenting season; two or three acts; grace and talent. Also W. Duffy, Leader or Solo Cornet. Perm., c/o Mrs. Manchester, 2, Henry-st., Dublin.

WANTED, by Steckel, Rider, with own Horse, also Four Kels, Pot-pourri Speciality; vac. Summer Season. Coms., 19, Kaye-st., Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Rollo, Sensational Slack Rope Artiste, now at liberty. Address, Evans's Carnival, Tollcross, Edinburgh.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED, for fêtes and galas, May 12 to the end of Aug., Acrobatic Troupes, Rope and Wire Walkers, Flying Trapeze, High Diving Acts, &c. Lowest terms, sample lithos (if any), Wilder Bros., Agents, Gt. Francis-street, Birmingham. Fredrica's Dogs please write in.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, all lines, Big Specialities, Comedy and Novelty Acts, for Manchester, Buxton, Llandudno, Ashbourne, &c., Feb. 10, onwards. Terms, Bookings, Lithos, Edgar Stebbings, 28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, a First-class Clean Comedy Number; must be strong, to finish act. Bert Baynham write. Karr and Kooney, Metropole Theatre, Openshaw.

WANTED, Comedians for Six Months' Tour in South Africa.
Apply,
John Tiller and Co.,
143, Charing Cross-road, London,
15, Lime-grove, Manchester,

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

WILL COLLINS AND COMPANY.
WANTED, Big Star Acts, Big Comedy Acts, Big Speciality Acts, Big Comedy Sketches.
Salary or sharing,
for the
Hippodrome, Exeter.
Will Collins and Company,
Broadmead House,
Panton-street, S.W.

GLASGOW PANOPTICON AND IBROX PALACE.
WANTED, for the above hall, strong and attractive Specialities, Good Comediennes, Sisters, Comedians, &c. Full particulars first letter, list of bookings, lithos, if any, to
A. E. Pickard, Panopticon, Glasgow.

NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
WANTED, Big Star Attractions, on salary, or to find complete programme on share.
Arthur Carlton, New Theatre, Worcester.

PALACE, DURHAM. On the Main Line.
WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, and Novelties, for immediate and future dates. T. C. Rawes, Proprietor.

WANTED, Big Tops, shares or salary, Artistes all lines, Feb. 10, onwards. Can offer 10 weeks, journeys short. Kennedy Circuit, Empire, Smethwick.

HARRY LEATON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Big Star Novelties, also Good Turns of Every Description, Feb. 10, and onwards. Send full particulars first letter, list of bookings, lithos, &c., to 575, Argyle-street, Glasgow.
Telegrams, "Cockney, Glasgow."
Telephone, 1075 Charing Cross.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Star Top Liners.
Also Artistes All Lines if Original,
Feb. 10, 17, 24, onwards.
1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone, 4195.
Telegrams, "Alarm, Beeston, Leeds."

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, First-class Acts, and Novelties of every description, Comedy, Acrobatic, and Pantomimic Troupes. Daring and Sensational Aerial Acts, Spectacular Musical Shows, Mystic Novelties, First-class Singing and Dancing Acts, and anything with Drawing Powers capable of Topping or Bottoming Bill, for March 10, 17, 24, and 31, April 21, onward, with exceptions. Address, with lowest terms and samples of printing (if any), to Manager.

NEW HALL,
BARGOED.
WANTED, through disappointment, Top of Bill for
Monday, Feb. 3.
Must be Big Act, with drawing powers.
Small turns please save money.
Apply,
A. J. Withers,
New Hall, Bargoed, S. Wales.

THE PHŒNIX THEATRE.
HILLSBOROUGH, SHEFFIELD.
THE PALACE, CLOWN,
near Chesterfield.
WANTED, Acts, of all descriptions, to communicate, re the above, also over 50 other Music Halls and Picture Palaces, with the
Sole Booking Agents,
The Fred Reynolds Agency.
Norfolk Chambers, Norfolk-street, Sheffield.
Wires, "Fredreyn, Sheffield."
'Phone, 2760 Central, Sheffield.

WANTED, Variety Turns for our Weekly Competition; Foresters', Thursday afternoon; Bow, Friday evening; Battersea, Monday afternoon; First Prize, £1. Apply by letter, Competition Manager, Sadler's Wells Theatre, Islington.

DRURY AND ALDRIDGE, Variety Agents.
WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, for immediate and future dates. Send bookings, terms, and lithos, if any. Also Wanted, Smaller Acts, suitable for Picture Halls. Write us at once to 55, Cowcaddens-street (nr. Pavilion), Glasgow. 'Phone, Douglas 375.

WANTED, Young Lady Juggler; preference given to one who can do ball bouncing on ring; start immediately. State what tricks you can do, lowest terms, photo, age, height. Box 4,280, "The Era."

WANTED, 12 Young and Pretty Ladies, for a Musical Comedietta on the Halls; must have excellent voices, good figures, and able to dance a little. Apply, Box 4,287, "The Era."

PALACE THEATRE, READING, and NEW THEATRE, NORTHAMPTON.
WANTED, Known, all Communications should be addressed to W. T. Simmons, Managing-Director, Palace Theatre, Reading.

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MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Monday next, Feb. 3, also Feb. 10, by T. E. Johnstone, Comedy Chorus Singer. Wire (to save time), Sherwood Villa, Cardiff-road, Bargoed, South Wales.

WANTED, Monday next, Feb. 3, also 17, 24, to follow our big success panto, Theatre Royal, Cardiff. The Dunvilles, Great Spectacular, Musical Vocal, Dance, and Conversational Star Act. Address, 54 Plantagenet-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, by Gladys and Alber, in Comedy Act, introducing singing, dancing, patter, and the cleverest tumbling before the public. This, Hippo., Long Eaton. Vacant, Monday, Feb. 3, March 3, 17. Address (after Saturday), 16, Holderness-terrace, Leeds.

WANTED, by Collins and Moore, The Genuine Comedy Act. Monday, Feb. 24, also March 3. The Laughing Hit of A. Seebold's "Red Riding Hood." Vac. Feb. 24, March 3. Ask Mr. Phelps what we are doing with them. Offers invited. This week, Alhambra, Stourbridge. Next, Aquarium, Gt. Yarmouth. Feb. 10, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Feb. 10, by Elsa Dane and Jack Granville, refined Musical Act, embracing high-class Vocalism and Humour at the Piano. Wire, King's Hall, Dover.

WANTED, Monday next. Wire.
THE GREAT STANLINIS (Four),
Artistic Musical Speciality.
Wire, 33, Dinsmore-road, Balham.

WANTED, Feb. 24 (North), by Atlas-Vulcana. World's Greatest Athletes.
Agents, Managers, &c., see this.
The Greatest of all Athletic Acts.
Feb. 3, the Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Peter Adair, the World's Wonder; age 70; gets younger (bottled) daily; Peter's no Teetotaller; he samples Power and Dewar; his 1,000 mile walks are feats of endurance, and Peter spells endurance en Dewarance.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

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STUART CLEVELAND.

WANTED, April 21, May 19, 26, June 9, and various on,
For that Most Successful Sketch,
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
First-class Company.
Address, Barnard's Palace, Chatham.

WANTED, Known, Charles Crayford, the Kentish Mystic. Vacant Feb. 10. This, Royal Victoria Hall, Waterloo-road, London, S.E. Next, G.P.O., Stroud, Glos.

WANTED, Known, C. Floydd, in his great Act, comedy and refined, Sulky Pony and Baboon; two acts; the only acts of their kind; big success; roars of laughter. Vacant dates, Hippo., Mansfield.

WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 10, 17, The Great Stanlinis (Four), Artistic Musical Speciality. Next, St. George's Hall, Falmouth.

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SWANSEA CORPORATION.
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WANTED, PIERROTS, FOR FORESHORE.
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Particulars obtainable from the
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Victoria Park, Swansea.

MINEHEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
OPEN-AIR ENTERTAINMENTS.

WANTED, offers for the Privilege of giving Entertainments during the coming season from a site on the Sea Front, Minehead. Offerers prepared to provide specially high-class form of Entertainments will receive special consideration. Particulars and conditions of the Licence may be obtained upon application to me. Sealed tenders, endorsed "Entertainments," stating amount offered and nature of Entertainment, must be sent to my office not later than Thursday, Feb. 20, 1913. The Council do not bind themselves to accept any offer. By order, L. C. Webber-Incledon, Clerk to the Council, 3, Bancks-street, Minehead, Somerset, Jan. 27, 1913.

WANTED, for Pier Pav., New Brighton, Easter Week, also May 5, 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23 First-class Known Concert Parties; shares or certainty; also Tenant, on shares only, March 31 to April 21, weeks. Sec., New Brighton Pier Co.

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WANTED, Novelties at once, on half shares, or will let on rental; also would like to hear from a family able to manage stage, produce sketches, ghost illusions, &c. This would be a good opening for a clever family. This hall is 86ft. long, and about 22ft. frontage in the best position of Union-street, Plymouth. Opens right to the pavement. A few doors from Andrew's Picture Palace. Ted Weeks, King's Hall, Plymouth.

WANTED, First-class Side Shows for Winter Show, at the Coliseum, Bristol.
Only good stuff entertained. Apply, Manager.

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WANTED, to Sell, cheap, Two Well-fitted Living Waggons, under carriage; strong and good; newly painted; together or separate. Call, or write any time, 35, Cromwell-road, New Southgate, London. Photo on application.

WANTED, to Sell, a small camel-back Pony; it is a good Joey and seizing pony; Living Wagon; 9 by 6; both to be sold cheap, together or separate. Sloan, 6, Grove-road, Lowestoft.

WANTED, to Sell, Tent, for one or two poles; cheap.
Apply, Potts, Auctioneer, Preston.

WANTED, to Sell, a Large Persian Male Camel; ten years old, quite docile, and thoroughly trained; can be seen nightly at the Opera House, Crewe. Apply, Glenville and Osmond, Opera House, Crewe.

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WANTED, every Showman who uses the railway to send to "The Era" for a copy of the article on the new Railway Rates. This will be sent on application, free of charge, to any Showman in the United Kingdom.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

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WANTED to Sell, a Freehold Picture Palace; London suburb; every facility; only wants seeing. Price £2,250. Apply, Box 4,228, "The Era."

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JOHN HART'S "CINDERELLA" PANTOMIME.

WANTED, to Sell, this Magnificent Production, now running with enormous success at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield. Eight beautiful scenes, painted by D. G. Hall. Costly ball-room and other dresses. A new and beautifully designed Electric Coach. Gorgeous Transformation Scene. Suitable for a big theatre, or could be easily toured.
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The pantomime is remarkable for its lavish mounting.—Vide Manchester Press.
Apply, Edmonstone Shirra.

WANTED, Wanted, to Sell, Florrie Forde's Pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."

Now playing with enormous success.
The most Gorgeous Scenery and Dresses Touring.
All in first-class condition.
Reason for selling, producing new title, new production, next season.
May be seen at the
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Can be seen next week at Lyric, Liverpool.
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No agents.
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WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up to date.
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WANTED, to Sell, large quantity of Plush Tip-up Chairs, with or without arms; also ditto in Pegamoid Leather, at 3s. 9d. each; 125 pieces of Pit Seating, to tip up, at 1s. per foot; all guaranteed brand new and warranted 12 months. Write for specifications and quantities before ordering at double my prices.
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WANTED, to Let, an intensely Strong Drama (printing by David Allen),
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WANTED, to Let, on royalty, striking Play on one of the burning questions of the day; cast 10. Walter Saltoun, Monmouth House, 13, Stoke Newington-road, N.

WANTED, to Let, Dates in March, and onwards, Bycullah Athenæum, Enfield; any kind of good-class entertainment; scenery, electric lighting. Apply, Manager.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, Wanted, to Let, for various dates, finest position in the city, Triangle Hall, Clifton, Bristol. Holding capacity 6,000 to 8,000. Suitable for Exhibitions, Promenade Concerts, &c.
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WANTED, Public Halls or other Large Buildings (not picture palaces), within a radius of 30 miles of London, for the presentation of the above film, now being shown at the Royal Albert Hall, London; dates wanted vacant. Send full particulars to Mr. G. Phillips, 38, Berners-street, Oxford-street, London, W.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, by Performer, with 20 years' stage experience, Lady Vocalist, for new and sensational sketch; possibly invest £5; rehearse at once; a sure success; partnership offered. Personally, or write, enclosing photo, to Mr. George, 21, Ravensdon-street, Kennington, any time between 3 and 6 p.m.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman as Partner in tour of farcical comedy; small investment only required; income will be fully protected; advertiser can book good dates. Address, Box 4,273, "The Era."

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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TO PROPRIETORS & MANAGERS.
Dr. Bodie has been performing at the Empire Cowdenbeath, last week, commencing Jan. 13, and although the house was packed from floor to ceiling every night, it was no surprise to us owing to the drawing powers of this great artiste. We wonder this artiste has a moment to himself. Managers and proprietors looking out for a pocketful of money should at once engage the great and only Dr. Walford Bodie, as the worst week of the year proved to be the record week for this building.
(Signed) BAILIE PENMAN,
Proprietor, Empire, Cowdenbeath.

JOHN EDWARD BREWSTER, deceased, late of 17, Rue des Martyrs, and 6, Rue de Saulnier, Paris, France, Impresario. Any person having in his possession a Will of the deceased dated 1911, or subsequently, or who can give any information respecting such a Will, is requested to communicate with Messrs. Phillips, Son and Thompson, Solicitors, 147, Cannon-street, London, E.C.

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MUST BE DISPOSED OF IMMEDIATELY.
MAGNIFICENT PICTURE THEATRE
FOR SALE.
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Splendid situation in large town. Long lease.
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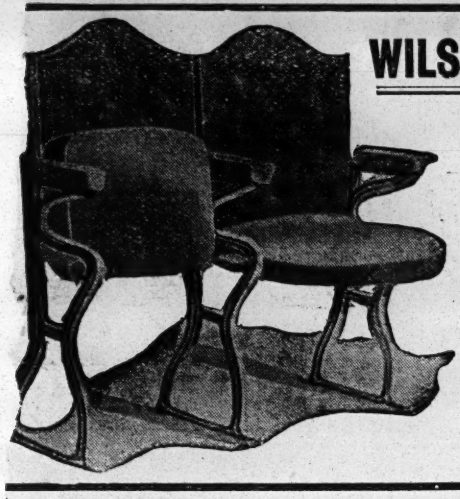

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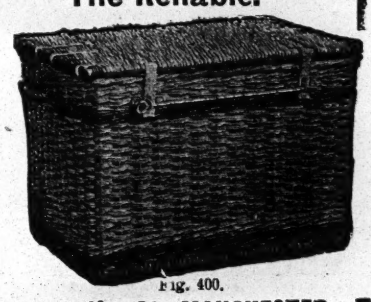

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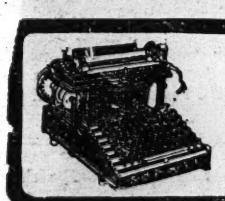

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MATINEES—WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS.

(OWING TO PREVIOUS BOOKINGS UNFORTUNATELY THE RUN MUST FINISH ON FEBRUARY 15.)

This splendid success is vacant for large theatre for a four or six weeks' season.

Also wanted other theatres for two weeks each to follow.

FRANCIS LAIDLER, PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRADFORD.

SYDNEY, MASTER.
Some act this boy. Coming Topper.
Can beat the man wrote rag-time.

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TALBOT and CLARE.
"An Eastern Absurdity."
Monday,, Hippo., Preston.

TEMPLES, THREE ROYAL.
This, Hippo., Keighley. Next, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough. Coms., Harry Leaton.

TERRY, SISTERS (Bella and Minnie).
Big hit in Chas. Elderton's Panto., "Aladdin." Feb. 3, Met., Gateshead.

THORNE, ROSALINE. Latest Illustrated Song or Song Scena, Florence Nightingale. P.A., 32, North-side, Clapham Common, S.W.

TUDORA'S (EDITH) PONIES.
Liberty Feb. 3, 10, on. Smart, genuine Act. Palace, Crawcrook, Ryton-on-Tyne.

TYMES, THE, in beautifully staged and dressed Song Scena, "The Enchanted Clock." Vac. May 5 and 12. Hip., Shildon, Co. Durham.

VALDO BROS., THE, in their Acrobatic Absurdity, "The Eccentric Motor Bus-Men." Per. add., 48, Rudloe-rd., Balham, London.

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Acrobatic Table Expert.
Feb. 3, Stones Palace, Dowlais.

WELDA and WYNNE (Bert and Dorothy). Feb. 10, H., Tonypandy. Vac. Feb. 17 and 24. Wire, 16, Mysore-rd., Clapham Junction.

WHEELER'S (late Beecham and Wheeler) Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agency, 12, Henrietta-street, W.C. Tel., 1280 Ger.

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On Scotch tour.
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Wire or write,
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YAMAMOTO and MISS KOYOSHI TROUPE. Celebrated Japanese Equilibrists and Entertainers. Perm., 30, Rue d'Orsel, Paris. Feb. 3, King's Hall, Dover. Vacant March 17, 31, May 5, on. Share or certainty if required with Own Company.

YOUNG, TED. Enormous success as Dame Crusoe, Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton. Next week, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

ZENITH and WHYTE.
"The Jelly Wobble."

APPLICATIONS for POSITIONS on the BACK PAGE of "The Era" should be addressed to the Publisher.

RE-ADDRESSING.

Artistes using "The Era" Office as their permanent address can have their letters re-addressed immediately on their arrival by giving information to the Manager, "The Era" Letter Department.

LITTLE BETTY RENÉE,

THE WORLD'S GREATEST CHILD DANSEUSE.

Tremendous success as FAIRY QUEEN, Panto., "TWINKLE LITTLE STAR."

[*Photo by Jas. Bacon & Sons.*

Vide Press, ERA, Jan. 25, 1913:—
"One of the most delightful features in 'Twinkle, Little Star,' at Birmingham Prince's, is the excellent toe dancing by Little Betty Renée, who will without doubt in a very short time be ranked as one of England's foremost dancers."

Do not fail to see this Wonder Child.
PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
ALL COMS. DIRECT.

Fully Booked every week for 3 years by WILL DALTON.

Upon OLD contracts I play my OLD show. FROM NOW ON I AM ONLY SIGNING FOR MY NEW ACT, **"The New Recruit"**—A new style and an original novelty. Big cloth, stage effects, &c.

JOSEPHINE LANGLEY,

The New Lancashire Lady Ventriloquist.

Several Tours Broadhead, V.T. Controlling Coy., Stoll, Coliseum, London, and for every independent Hall away from the Tours. Fully Booked from Jan. 1, 1912, till Dec. 7, 1914. All contracts by my Sole Agent:

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Absolutely ORIGINAL House-Filler.

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COMIC OPERETTA

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Everything Copyright.
Words by **CYRIL TREVOR**
(Creator of "Constable Crimes")
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Everything Copyright.

5 Solo Parts—7 Speaking Parts—Full Choruses

The characters of Professor Joseph Wrigeley Twist and Mr. Samuel Spring are **highly original.**

Contains a HAUNTING WALTZ-MELODY.

"He's Drunk!" (Solo), and "Perfect Babies!" (Chorus), are something **entirely new** in music hall compositions.

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THE NEW COMEDIAN

'Round the Razor Laugh'

WILL DALTON AGENT

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THE MONEY MAGNET.

THE RECORD BREAKER.

Still another Great Record **Smashed** at the **Theatre Royal, Coatbridge,** last week by the

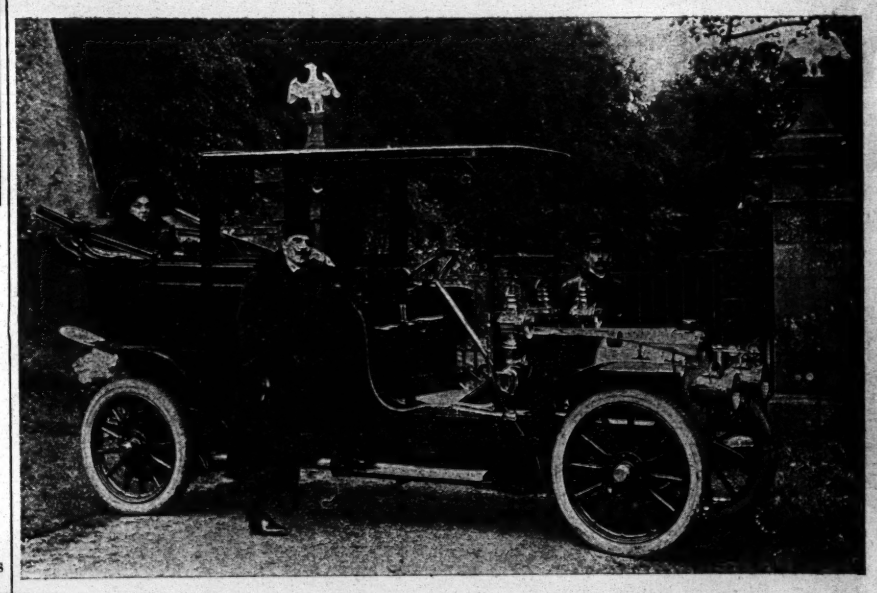
ONE AND ONLY

DR. WALFORD

BODIE

THE PRIDE OF THE NORTH.

The greatest and most sensational draw in the Vaudeville. The only Artiste who can go on year after year and pay return visits to all towns, generally breaking all his previous records. Last week at T.R., Coatbridge, despite the fact of its being his tenth visit, all records absolutely annihilated, beating Pantomime, Musical Comedy, Variety, and the Drama. Packed from floor to ceiling nightly, at early door prices. All the Upper and Dress Circle booked in advance for the whole week. Could have sold them twice over. Even beat the New Year week, which is the great holiday week in Scotland. Many thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Louden for most comfortable and happy week, and offer of three return dates at big increase.



DR. WALFORD BODIE, THE LAIRD OF MACDUFF.

READ.

Dr. Walford Bodie at the Theatre Royal.

"Dr. Walford Bodie, the well-known hypnotist, bloodless surgeon, and entertainer, performed before a large and enthusiastic audience on Monday night at the Theatre Royal, Coatbridge. Long before the doors were open a huge crowd besieged the entrances, and before the time advertised to commence the Theatre was packed at early door prices, nearly the whole of the dress and upper circles being booked in advance. The whole of the entertainment submitted by Dr. Bodie and his talented company went with a merry swing. The Highland laird of Macduff had a rousing reception on making his first appearance, being cheered again and again. His great ventriloquial sketch, 'The Laird's Highland Party,' was received with tumultuous applause. There is no doubt he is a past master of the ventriloquial art, and has no equal. His gorgeous array of electric automa of fourteen life-sized figures, and the marvellous command of his voice, fairly astounded the vast audience, and he was recalled again and again. In the second part of the programme the Doctor appeared again in his world-famed demonstration of electro hypnotic wonders. Assisted by his graceful and gifted medium, Mdlle. 'La Belle Electra,' he introduced his famous and world-renowned experiments, including 'The Cage of Death,' the Electrocution Chair of Sing Sing Prison, New York, and many other startling and sensational feats, which have made his name a household word throughout the land. The whole concluded with the most side-splitting performance ever seen in the Theatre; the audience simply rocked with laughter, the Theatre resounding again and again with screams and yells; and, as the Doctor truly said, he gave more fun in half-an-hour than three pantomimes rolled into one. The Doctor is supported by an excellent company of vaudeville artistes, including the Doctor's own son, Albert Edward Bodie, who bids fair to be a worthy successor of his father. He is a marvellous illusionist, and fairly mystified all beholders. His easy, gentlemanly, and refined manners fairly captivated the audience. We predict a brilliant future for the young laird. Miss Dolly Robson, the Doctor's protégée, is well worthy of the name of the bell-voiced girl. Her rendering of the Doctor's famous song, 'Heroes of the Titanic,' fairly brought the house down. She had a grand reception, and after singing four songs she gave a neat little rag-time dance. She is indeed a credit to the Doctor. Other turns to appear were 'Ernst,' the marvellous boy violinist; Stave, the musical cannibal; Wee Mora Burns; Mdlle. Delara—the whole forming the finest company submitted to the public since Mr. Louden took over the Theatre; and he is to be congratulated on his enterprise in bringing, we might say, one of the biggest favourites who visits Coatbridge. The advance booking is phenomenal, and those wishing to see and hear the wonderful Doctor should book early. On Monday night hundreds were unable to obtain admission."

—Vide *Coatbridge Express*, Jan. 22, 1913.

Managers, send Vacant Dates at once, but remember when making offers that our expenses are over £100 weekly. Over three tons of Apparatus, &c, carried.

All letters addressed to Sole Director and Proprietor—

ALBERT EDWARD BODIE.

This Week—T.R., Paisley. Next Week—King's Theatre, Greenock, (7th Visit.)

Moss' Empires Ltd

Managing Director - - - Mr. FRANK ALLEN.

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Telephone: 1050 & 1051 GERRARD. *[INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.]* Telegrams: "TWIGSOME, LONDON."

CALLS FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1913.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

"Hullo, Rag-time!" Wille Bros., Green & Wood, Musical Schaffers, Barat, Bioscope, Billie Eldid.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Will Van Allen, Four Arconis, Three Prestons, Marie Lloyd, John & Mae Burke, Billy Williams, Bioscope, Elsie Bower, George Rose, Leipzig.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Grey, Olive Armidale, Andrew McManus, Green & Wood, The Dennisons, Wilkie Bard, Bioscope, Carmen Turia, Molly Wells.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"Charley's Aunt."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Dave Bryant, Edwin Lawrence, Pictures.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Cornalla & Eddie, Quigley Bros., Vasco, Cosgrove & Burns, Wee Georgie Wood, Lulu Williams, Bioscope, Donal McDougal, Kathleen O'Hanlon, Alexandre & Bertie.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Wilfred Burnand, Will Hay, Campbell & Barber, Millie Payne, American Rag-time Octette, Five Symphony Girls, Bioscope, Marie Goodwin, Piccad Troupe.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Shirley & Ransome, Nora Emerald, Bioscope, Donaldson Bros., Friend & Downing, "The Lodgers," Burt Shepard, Louis J. Seymour, Vernon Troupe.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Pictures, Heeley & Crawford, Gabrielle Hope.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Pictures, Les Miserables, Millard & Brogden.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Sister Cora, Paulhan Team, Bioscope, Chas. Cardow, Harry Webber, Eugene Stratton, Little Ena Dayne, Rich Taylor, Ike & Will Scott, Howard & Harris.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Steve McCarthy, Bioscope, Eight Welsh Miners, Anna Eva Fay, Stowe Bros., Marie Kendall, La Pia, France & Stewart, Mabel Sinclair.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Messrs. Day & Lauri's Pantomime "Dick Whittington."

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for;—

Pantomime Production "Mother Hubbard."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

J. W. Rowley, Veronica Brady, Albert Whelan, Roya & Regan, Dort & Leonard, Bioscope, Laurette & Laurel, Gisela Rose, Bertram Wallis's Musketeers.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Pictures, The Rawsons, Couqelli, Pitts & Kelway's Co.

Artistes in the Midlands wishing to submit trials for their acts should apply to the manager of this theatre.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Brown & Nevarro, Nixon Grey, Tom Purslow, Bioscope, Cooper & Lait, George Mozart, Eddie Martyn, Paulastos, Doris Duquesne.

Notice to Artistes.

The management invite artistes engaged in Birmingham to take advantage of the handsome and high-class lounge which has recently opened adjoining the Empire Theatre, and under the same management. All facilities are provided for correspondence, &c.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Bros. Miller, Millie Doris, Leslie Harris, "Arms and the Girl," Les Marbas, Tucker, Bioscope, Billy Matchett, Haydee's Marionettes.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

O'Gorman Bros., Roland Bros., The Kellinos, Magini, Chas. Wayne and his Incubator Girls, Russell Trio, Bioscope, Chas. Stevens, Neil Kenyon.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

James Stewart, Three Cape Girls, Aldon & Loupe, Sam Stern, Houdini, Durant Bros., Bioscope, Frank Elliston, Bi-Ber-Ti.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

John Tiller's Pantomime "Cinderella."

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Gwennie Llewellyn, Great Weiland, Jack Thomas, Six Bros, Luck, Barton & Ashley, Harry Fields, Wullie Walker, Bioscope, Trixie Marris, Thora.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

John Tiller's Pantomime "Forty Thieves.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Resident-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

The Craggs, Real McKays, George Newburn, Princess D'Aryaba, Gene Greene, Adam Tomlinson, Huley & Bent, Austen Temple, Leslie Bros., Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Camp & Critic, Four Rays, Ernest Shand, Sammy Shields, The Cowboy Jupiters, Les Astis, Bioscope, Peter & Potts, Park's Eton Boys, James Houston & Co.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Vera Le Fleming, Walter Lambert, Tom E. Dean, Five X-Rays, Bioscope, Alf Chester, La Milo, Jock McKay, Brothers Curran, Ray's Skating Girls.

The following are booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Edie King, 9 Dainty Dots, Hayes & Merrill, Jackson Family, Six Donovans, Two Boyds, George D'Albert, Terry & Lambert.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"From Manger to Cross."

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Geo. Black's pantomime "Dick Whittington."

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

Les Three Stewarts, Bioscope, Carlos Menard, Chass Lewis, Hetty Halpin, J. J. Mannix, Ethel Dunford, Hector & Loletta, Edie Gorf.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Bert Lloyd & Co., Bioscope, Musical Boldens, Little Dando, Linn & Darius, Carrie Wood, Les Valentes.

HER MAJESTY'S, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Stock Company.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Picture Entertainment, Illustrated Songs, &c.

GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.

Picture Entertainment.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Pantomime production "Aladdin."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ARTISTES AND AGENTS.—When an artiste or act, having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the Contracts will be sent to the agent who negotiated the last engagement—unless notice has been received from the artiste that this is not desired. It is therefore important that should artistes change their agents, notification in writing be immediately sent to Moss' Empires, Ltd., stating through whom they desire their business transacted.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS. ANY ARTISTES ABSENTING THEMSELVES WILL BE LIABLE TO HAVE THEIR CONTRACTS CANCELLED.

SPECIAL PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE AT EACH THEATRE FOR THE EXHIBITION OF LOOSE PHOTOGRAPHS. ARTISTES ARE REQUESTED TO SUPPLY THESE TO THE MANAGER ON REACHING THE THEATRE, AND THEY WILL BE RETURNED IN GOOD CONDITION AT THE END OF THE WEEK

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artistes or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. **SILENCE, A POLITE NEGATIVE.** To avoid confusion Artistes employing Agents should accredit one only at one time to do their business.

BOOKING DEPARTMENT.—This department is now under the supervision of Mr. Ernest Wighton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artistes and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North should apply to the Manager, as Matinees are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTES.—Artistes must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Head Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artistes will run the risk of having their engagements cancelled. IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artistes are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artistes' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTES WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

IMPORTANT.—All sketches produced at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. A complete copy of the script of every sketch as licensed, with a copy of the Lord Chamberlain's licence, must be sent to the Head Office twenty-one days at least before the performance of the sketch at any of the above Theatres.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the London Offices, and signed by either Mr. Frank Allen or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the London Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

THE

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Providing Continuous Engagements for Artistes at the most Important Variety Theatres in the London Area.

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1, DURHAM HOUSE ST., STRAND, W.C.

Telephone Nos., Gerrard 5654 and 2619.

Calls for Monday, Feb. 3, 1913.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 12.

Two Bobs, "Maison Decolletee," Henri de Vries' Co. in "Arsene Lupin," Jan Rudenyi & Co., Dutch Daly, Louie Tracey, Palermo and Chefalo, The Crisps, George Formby, Beth Tate, Four Amaranths, Les Andres, Grant and Grant, Kenna Bros., and Bioscope.

TIVOLI.
Rehearsal at 12.

Marie Lloyd, Bransby Williams, Stanley Kirkby's Joculars, Gus Elen, Elfie Fay, Zoret, Ted Waite, Three Gascoignes, Gus Garrick, Three Westbrooks, Edith Goodall & Co., Chas. Whittle, Bert Errol, Nino-Nina, and Bioscope.

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.

Joe Peterman's Co., Harry Tate & Co., Bob Karna's "Honeysuckle" Co., "Oh! Molly," George Formby, The Courtiers, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Mark Leslie, Three Bros. Huxter, Wilson Hallett, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Manning, Nelson Jackson, The Lyons Trio, A. Rudd, and Bioscope.

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.45.

George Gray & Co., Jan Rudenyi, Lottie Lennox, Kirkby's Joculars, Harry Clifford, Sinclair and Whiteford, Irene Millar, Frances Letty, Cliff Diamond, James Fawn, Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.

John Lawson in "Sally in Our Alley," Three Gascoignes, Five Cliftons, The Courtiers, Will Norrie, Gertrude Lester, The Crisps, Will Nosam, Sisters Caselli, Elsie Kerry, Mart and Pep, Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.

Fred Karno's Co., Dolly Elsworthy & Co., Five Petleys, Nelson Jackson, Ethel Loftus, Geo. Ross, Romanoff, Nina and Nina, Irene Millar, Bioscope, Charles Whittle.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.

Harry Tate, George Formby, Les Andres, W. G. Grant & Co., Harvey Boys, Beth Tate, Sisters Caselli, Dorima Trio, Will Nosam, Sados, Harriett Ross, Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.

W. Bird's Co., Ernie Lotinga's "Three Knocks," Seven Perezoffs, Barnard's Marionettes, The Leonards, Pyck, Tholl and Taylor, Ethel Stephenson, Jessie Lee, Harry Simms, W. H. Kuming, Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW.
Rehearsal at 1.

Joe Peterman & Co., Three Van Dammes, Mart and Pep, Fred Douglas, Arthur Lennard, Aimee Roberts, May Fairclough, Conway and Leland, Fred Wilkinson, Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2.

J. and H. B. Jewell, Fred Edwards and May Yates, Conway and Leland, Jessie Berg, Aimee Roberts, Jenny Castelle, Ed. E. Forde, Mark Leslie, Bert Errol, Bioscope.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12.

Geo. Barrett, Walter Bird's Co., George Tawde and Eva McRoberts, Polly and Day, Irene Richards, Jock Whiteford, Zoret, Edith Trevor, Morel and Darte, Sylvia Cavalho, Bioscope.

WATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1.

McLellan and Carson, Bert Lytton, Lottie Lennox, King and King, Ray Wallace, Bioscope, Lawson and O'Dell, and Dancing Middies.

These Calls are communicated by the Managements for the information of Artistes "without prejudice."

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Written and Produced in West-End style by Edward Marris.

Fully booked until Autumn. Entirely new Production.

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Production Feb. 24.

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RAG-TIME NOVELTY

LONDON, Feb. 17. You'll Want This.

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MISS OLGA ESME,

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CONFUSION (Seven Artistes.) ON THE BEACH
CONFUSION Vacant— ON THE BEACH
FEBRUARY 3.
CONFUSION **ON THE** ON THE BEACH
CONFUSION **BEACH,** ON THE BEACH
(Seven Artistes.)
CONFUSION Vacant— ON THE BEACH
FEBRUARY 3.
CONFUSION SIR FRANCIS BURNAND'S ON THE BEACH
Three Act Laughing Success,
CONFUSION **THE LADY OF** ON THE BEACH
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Programme will include

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Hush! A Modern Miracle.
The Original Box Trick.
A New Spirit Seance.
The Floating Table Mystery, &c., &c.
Entirely Original Concerteds.

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Address Business Manager—
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M. H. A. R. A.

and

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18, CHARING CROSS-ROAD, W.C.

NOTICE.

The Secretary desires the addresses of the following members:—Costello and Freeman, the Mowatts, Wellman, Lydia Neilson Montes and Welma, Ryan and Hall, Gwennie Morgan, Wincklers and Louis Kerno. Will any member knowing the addresses of the above kindly communicate with the Secretary?

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J. SPARROW, Secretary.

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Secretary and Chief Accountant, W. S. GORDON MICHIE.
ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR FEBRUARY 3, 1913.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

M. Theodore Koaloff in "Scheherazade," Seymour Hicks and Ellaline Terriss in "Washed Up," Alfred Lester, Bi-Bo-Bi, Arthur Woodville, Chrono-Chrome, Mlle. Marjutti, Lydia and Amelys, Merry and Glad, Bioscope, Betty Barclay.

Please note the Continental Pitch has been adopted by the Coliseum Orchestra.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—

"Uncle Tom's Cabin," Selection, Harold Baker, Dion Wade, Bioscope, Lotto, Lilo and Otto.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

H. G. Pélissier and The Follies, Charlie Bell, Stein Esthor Trio, Fred Keeton, Bioscope, Professor Thornbury, Percival, Adelmann Family, Vera Wootton.

Artistes should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of week.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

Wish Wynne, Charles Austin & Co. in "The Bombshell," Luis Hardt, Tom Costello, Harry Thorpe and Zoe Coe, Harry Bedford, Larola, Rose Cabani, Bioscope, The Three Collegians.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

Chung Ling Soo, J. P. Carroll, Little Ganty, The Great Vandinoff, The Four Vagabonds, Bioscope, Rosie Archer, Chanti.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

G. H. Chirgwin, Max Erard's "Shepherdland," Harold Montague, Lea Manti, Charles Emerald and Maude Dupre in "A Hot Scotch," Godfrey James, Josephine Langley, Hinton and Wootton, Bioscope, "A Riding Academy."

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Happy Fanny Fields, J. H. Scotland, Marcus and Gartelle, Tom Jones, Sydney James' Strolling Players, Bioscope, John F. Traynor in "The Devil's Elbow," Millie and Arthur.

Artistes should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of week.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

C. Aubrey Smith and Lilian Braithwaite in "Instinct," Daisy Taylor, Cruikshank, The Harlequinaders, Ferry Corwey, Lucy Coventry, Bioscope, Lorch Family.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

Gertie Gitana, Belle Mora, Fred Russell, Hynd's Roosters, Bioscope, Doroswami, Jean Robb, Dusty Rhodes, Hal Russ, The Great Roland.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Raymond Phillips, Henry Helme, Kitty Wager, Walter Bellonini, The Delevines, Jimmy Godden, Bioscope, Fred Poplar, Ten Loonies.

LEICESTER FLORAL HALL.
Pictures.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—

Percy Honri in "Bohemia," Haidee de Rance, Daisy Sloan, Percy Hayden, Drawee, Hambo and Frisco, Wild Australia, Inez and Pim, Bioscope.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

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The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and 17 for Foreign Orchestrations. Bristol Hippodrome requires 20 parts, including 3 first violins and piano part for harp.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen between the Hours of 10 and 1 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

CALLS FOR MONDAY, FEB. 3, 1913.

ASHTON—Empire Hippodrome.—The Ashton Operatic Society with "San Toy." **2.**

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE—Empress Roller Rink. — Skating, Two Sessions Daily.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE — Pavilion Theatre. — Horace White, Pictures, The Four Newburys. **11.** Matinées, Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, **2.30.**

BURY — Hippodrome. — The Motley Four, Two Britons, Archie O'Neill, Kittie Cameron, Pictures, Woodward and Page. **2.**

ECCLES — Orown Theatre. — The Eccles Amateur Dramatic and Operatic Society with "A Country Girl." **2.**

LIVERPOOL—Pavilion Theatre.—Andie Caine's pantomime "Dick Whittington." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER — Hippodrome.—Max Erard's "Vaudevillians," Tim Carlisle, Ronald George, Herd and Gard, F. V. St. Clair, Penman and Miller, Arthur Slater, Gerald Griffin and Co. **2.**

MANCHESTER-Junction Theatre.—Green and Winsford's Co. in "The Pride of the Prairie." **2.**

MANCHESTER—King's Theatre.—Harold Raynor and Repertoire Company. **2.**

MANCHESTER—Metropole Theatre. — Gar Kiddie's Pantomime "Mother Goose." **11.** Matinée, Monday and Saturday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER.—Osborne Theatre.—Hinton and Zillwood's Co. in "Allah's Orchard." **2.**

MANCHESTER — Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Hinton and Zillwood's Co. in "King of the Gipsies." **2.**

MORECAMBE—Winter Gardens.—Pictures, Dancing, &c.

PRESTON — Hippodrome. — Gar Kiddie's Pantomime. "Little Bo-Peep." **11.** Matinée, Monday, **2.30.**

PRESTON—New King's Palace.—Will open shortly.

SALFORD — Hippodrome. — John Tiller's Pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor." **2.** Matinée, Tuesday and Saturday, **2.30.**

ISS MARIE LLOYD.

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Latest success, "My Actor Man." By Clifford Harris and James Tate.

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Each a huge success.
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A blaze of revolving light. An ovation at every performance. Beautiful poses, splendid dresses. Concludes Panto. engagement to-night, King's, Edinburgh.
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Thanks Mrs. Lillie Williams for offer Savoy, Glasgow. Thanks Bannister Howard for Panto. offer. Thanks Mr. Good for two return dates Pavilion, Glasgow. Vacant Feb. 17, March 31.

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Enormous Success.

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Mr. Leonard Teel, the indefatigable and genuinely funny comedian, who essays the rôle of Baroness. There is an easy, natural, spontaneous flow of humour and a quietly droll delivery of his witticisms which secures him easy first place as the comedian of the company. . . . The Baroness (Mr. Leonard Teel) scores chiefly in "Why do the men run after me?" and "The mice have been at 'em again," both chortled with any amount of droll embellishment.
—"The Era," Jan. 18, 1913.

The audience welcomed and rejoiced in the eccentricities of the Baroness, vivaciously played by Mr. Leonard Teel.
—"The Morning Post," Dec. 27, 1912.

Mr. Leonard Teel, who has often scored as an eccentric "dame" in similar productions, gets a good share of laughs as the Baroness.
—"Sporting Times."

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"I've got a soft place in mi 'ead,"
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Other enjoyable items, and not the least of these is Walter Stockwell, who sings a song in good style, and moreover persuades his audience to join heartily in the chorus. He shares a very large portion of the evening's plaudits.—"Western Daily Express," Jan. 25, 1913.

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HORACE WHEATLEY.

Continued success of "Old knee breeches," "D-o-u-g-h-e-r-t-y," "Mac, my old pal, Mac," "When I met you at the fair in Tipperary."

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Great success as
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The Natural Animal Impersonator.
Enormous Success as the Cat, "Whittington" Panto., Prince's Theatre, Bristol.
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HIPPO., HULME.

"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"
"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"
"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"
Written by Wal Pink.
Music by J. S. Baker.
Another Screaming Success.

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"THE PUNCH AND JUDY MAN."
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Scene and Props. by Linton.

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that some person or persons have been singing his song,
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The ever-welcome Pantomime Comedian and Dancer in all new business, songs, and gags.

The Success of the Year,
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